



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Burundi

Reportage on Situation After Failed Coup Attempt

Ministers Reportedly Return

BR2504125794 Vilvoorde VTM TV Network in Dutch
1100 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] [Announcer de Sloovere] The situation is still unclear in the Burundian capital Bujumbura. Last night a small group of the Burundian military tried to overthrow the government, but their coup reportedly failed. Yet calm has not returned completely. Shooting in the northern district of Kamenge is still being heard and the Army has given the civilians until 1800 [1500 GMT] to hand in their weapons. Here is a report by our correspondent Robert Esselinckx:

[Begin recording] [Esselinckx] As far as we can gauge, the violence remains restricted to Kamenge and Kinama on the outskirts of Bujumbura. The Tutsi-dominated Army has tried for days to disarm Hutu civilians and much fighting is continuing.

[Unidentified person] Every 10 minutes we hear shooting, either machine guns or other firearms. The ultimatum to the Kamenge inhabitants to hand in their weapons by 1800 on 24 April expired and has been extended another 24 hours.

[Esselinckx] What about the white people, the Belgians? Are they in danger?

[Person] No, not at all.

[Esselinckx] Apart from that, a small group of the military attempted a coup last night, which reportedly failed. Several ministers who had gone into hiding have returned and taken up their posts again. Everything is normal in many places in Bujumbura. Moreover, Sabena will maintain its three scheduled flights for this week.

In the meantime, 350 Belgian paratroopers are still in Nairobi waiting to return to Belgium, unless, off course, the Belgian Government decides to have them help in the evacuation of our citizens from Burundi. But the Council of Ministers must make a decision on that first.

Incidentally, one of the two military Boeings 727 had an engine breakdown in Nairobi. [end recording]

[De Sloovere] We now have our reporter Farook Ozgunes on the line from Bujumbura for the latest developments. Farook, have you noticed anything at all of this failed coup?

[Ozgunes] The leadership of the Burundian Army actually is putting the events in perspective and is not talking about a coup, but rather of a small uprising within the Army. I have spoken with the Burundian Army chief of staff, who told me that 10 soldiers had left their barracks without permission. They tried to involve others in their mutiny but without success, and they have been arrested.

Also, two officers have been arrested and are being questioned at this very moment.

[De Sloovere] Did you hear any shooting?

[Ozgunes] No. To hear shooting one must travel to Kamenge, which everyone is being advised against doing. We tried yesterday, but were chased away. Kamenge is blocked off and it is impossible to gain access.

[De Sloovere] Are there any troops or tanks in the streets?

[Ozgunes] Light armored personnel carriers are driving on the streets, not in the center of Bujumbura itself, but more on the outskirts and the gendarmerie have erected checkpoints everywhere in the city. Anybody who wants to pass is being searched thoroughly, and especially for weapons.

[De Sloovere] Yet it is clear that just one spark can make the violence flare up.

[Ozgunes] That is correct. Right now the center of Bujumbura is quiet, but there is a lot of movement, especially in the adjoining areas. Hundreds of Hutus have fled Kamenge District. One of them told me: There is no place for us to go anymore. Kamenge is the only remaining Hutu stronghold in Bujumbura. According to these refugees, the Army entered Kamenge yesterday and started shooting at random. It is unknown how many victims there are. The Burundian Army actually is ready to march into that neighborhood to disarm the Hutus.

[De Sloovere] How about the security of the Belgians? Have they been advised to remain inside?

[Ozgunes] The Belgians are in no, repeat no, danger. Yet they have been advised by the Belgian Embassy to stay off the streets after 1800. This is more a precautionary measure: many criminals are using the current chaos to rob people on the streets.

There was an emergency meeting at the Belgian Embassy yesterday afternoon to discuss the situation of our citizens, but there are no confirmed plans so far to have Belgians leave Burundi.

[De Sloovere] Thank you, Farook. We will hear you again in our next newscast.

Assembly Speaker Confirms Coup Attempt

AB2504150694 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Excerpts] Burundi remained surprisingly calm after its president's death on 6 April. This calm has just been shattered 20 days later. Elements of the Burundi Armed Forces, dominated by the minority Tutsi tribe, tried once again to seize power yesterday. The coup plot was quickly foiled and was mostly unnoticed in Bujumbura. Here is our correspondent Celsius Senguyunva with a report.

[Begin Senguyunva recording] Officially, the information has not yet been confirmed or refuted. We have been able to obtain some scraps of information from the Army Headquarters which say that about 10 soldiers tried to stage a coup by mobilizing others who did not follow them. These 10 people have been arrested. The Army Headquarters is still not prepared to disclose the identity of these people. All we know, and I am repeating what the Army chief of general staff told us on the phone just a while ago, is that the people who attempted to stage this coup are the same ones who tried to stage the October coup in which President Ndadaye was killed. He said that these people were already on the black lists of the investigators and could have been arrested at any moment. Reports trickling out to us say that some of the soldiers managed to escape. There are some senior officers among these soldiers. [end recording]

The mutiny was therefore quickly quelled in Bujumbura, but the number of soldiers involved remains unclear. According to the Army Headquarters, six or seven soldiers including four officers have been arrested. Others managed to escape. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, the current speaker of the National Assembly, who is acting as president of the Republic, confirmed the coup attempt to Mohamed Youssoufou Saliou.

[Begin recording] [Ntibantunganya] Last night, some unusual movements were observed within a unit of the Burundi Army. The Army chief of general staff and [words indistinct] military defense units tried to monitor the movements and they confirmed this morning that an attempt was made.

[Saliou] Could you confirm to us reports that the four soldiers, who are allegedly the brains behind this putsch, have been arrested?

[Ntibantunganya] Actually, two officers have been interrogated at the Army Headquarters and have provided some information, which I cannot comment on now.

[Saliou] Do you fear for your life now?

[Ntibantunganya] If someone is a politician he always fears for his life. This is especially true in a country such as ours which is experiencing difficulties, but I am not scared. [end recording]

The new coup attempt in Burundi illustrates the agitation within the ranks of some Tutsi extremist soldiers, who have never accepted the coming into power of the Hutus, yet are nonetheless in the majority. [passage omitted] This morning, gunfire could still be heard in the outlying northern districts of Bujumbura. Armed clashes have for several days now been taking place between soldiers and armed Hutu militiamen. However, according to military sources, these clashes are not linked to the coup attempt. The rest of the capital and the country is calm.

Minister Links Paratroopers to Plot

AB2504154594 Dakar PANA in English 1457 GMT
25 Apr 94

[Text] Bujumbura, 25 Apr (PANA)—A small section of the Parachute Battalion of the Burundi Army were the plotters of the failed coup d'etat late Sunday [24 April], the minister of human rights said Monday in Bujumbura. The minister, Issa Ngendakumana, who is the government's spokesman, told the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY in the Burundi capital that two trucks filled with parachutists had gone to several barracks to persuade other soldiers to join the plot.

But the director of communication at the Ministry of National Defense, Commander Sinarinzi, said that five junior officers were leaders of the plot and that just one truck with five parachutists aboard had attempted to carry out the coup. The second truck, he said, was abandoned by its driver who immediately reported the plot to the Special Investigation Brigade. Sinarinzi said that the five arrests had been made and that the mutineers were being interrogated.

This is the third coup attempt in Burundi in nine months. The first was on 10 July 1993, on the eve of President Melchior Ndadaye's inauguration. Ndadaye, the first democratically elected president in the country, was killed in the second attempt on 21 October. His successor, Cyprien Ntaryamira, died on 6 April in a suspicious plane crash.

Sunday's foiled coup coincided with the ultimatum had been largely ignored.

The same source said that 10 residents of Ruhero, a posh central area of Bujumbura, surrendered their firearm licenses to local authorities. However, firing continues in the northern part of the capital killing and injuring soldiers and civilians.

Musaga, a relatively quiet suburb in the south of Bujumbura, was again the scene of violent ethnic clashes Sunday. Four people were wounded, police and local residents said. Armed gangs attacked a military detachment based in the northeastern province of Karuzi Sunday, severely wounding two soldiers, the governor of the region, Mbonyumugenzi Frederic, said.

Coup Plotters Arrested

LD2504173694 Brussels La Une Radio Network in
French 1600 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] [Announcer] In Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, south of Rwanda, the situation is calm but still very tense. Last night's abortive coup by several dozen soldiers and officers has failed. Some of those behind the coup have been arrested, others are on the run. Francoise Berlaymont first tells us how the abortive coup started:

[Berlaymont] Those behind the coup were arrested last night. According to the interior minister, they are three Tutsi extremists, three officers, namely two captains and

one officer cadet of the Superior Institute of Military Officers [Institut Supérieur des Cadres Militaires]. They went out yesterday afternoon with one armored car and two trucks as well as some 50 men. They tried to storm the residences of the chief of staff and the defense minister, as well as the president's residence. However, those behind the coup did not manage to convince the other barracks. The abortive coup was not only directed at the government, but also at the army high command.

Those officers who have been arrested are believed to reproach the chief of staff for its lack of firmness in the Kamenge clashes. This is the Hutu district of Bujumbura, whose inhabitants have been opposing the Army for two weeks. The Army issued an ultimatum. Yesterday, Sunday [24 April], at 1800, all the inhabitants were to surrender their weapons, which they failed to do. The ultimatum was postponed to this evening, at 1800. Several thousand soldiers came from other regions of the country last weekend to surround Kamenge. This maneuver could have been used as a cover for the coup.

Shooting went on all day in Kamenge with guns, grenades, machine guns, and rifles. It is impossible to enter or leave the district. The rest of the capital is calm, but tension is extremely high, despite seemingly normal life. Francoise Berlaymont reporting from Bujumbura for the news bulletin.

[Announcer] We have heard that contacts are being established in Bujumbura. Their aim is to prevent a violent confrontation in the northern districts of the town between the Army—dominated by Tutsis—and the Hutu gangs of armed resistance fighters who have found refuge there. If these contacts fail, this would in all likelihood lead to more tension in Burundi.

In Brussels, the FRODEBU [the Front for Democracy in Burundi], has said that last night's abortive coup is to be attributed to the supporters of the former president, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, who, for his part, has strongly denied these allegations. The FRODEBU, the majority party in Burundi, has also said that the coup was continuing, that the Army was putting the government under pressure, that the next few hours will decide whether it is double or quits.

President Thanks Armed Forces

EA2504203894 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1745 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] The Burundi interim president, Mr. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, has addressed again all the citizens on the crucial issue of security over the whole territory in general and to the mayorship of Bujumbura in particular. He launched an urgent appeal to all the Burundians so that they all continue to bring back durable peace in the country. Security is on the agenda of all the consultation meetings which are being held since a number of weeks.

Mr. Ntibantunganya first evoked the problem of disarming the civil population, precisizing that after the expiry of the

ultimatum, the follow-up committee on the evolution of the situation in Burundi after the tragic death of President Ntaryamira had extended the delay. In his declaration, the interim president indicated that the reasons for the disarmament of the civilian population are multiple. The government will be able to settle problems pertaining to peace and security. Disarmament will allow to avoid suspicion between the nation components.

The government intends to get the law on the arms detention respected. The president-interim also thanked the nation's Armed Forces for keeping loyal to legal institutions by refusing to rally eventual putschists.

Government Presses for Surrender of Weapons

Deadline Expires

EA2504134794 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Swahili 0530 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] The deadline set by the government for the surrender of firearms expired yesterday. No statement has so far been issued. Earlier, the government warned all groups in possession of firearms, whether lawfully or unlawfully, that the Army and the security committees will be forced to search for firearms if they are not surrendered. A government announcement called on armed groups to stop shooting and on the Army to maintain discipline and to use weapons for self defense.

Speaking to reporters, Defense Minister Gedeon Fyiroko disclosed that the seizure of arms would take place in all parts of the country, that is the municipalities, divisions, and regions. Meanwhile, our reporter in Karuzi region has reported that two soldiers were shot and injured by unknown assailants.

Surrender Call Unheeded

EA2504161094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] The government's call for people to surrender their arms does not seem to have been heeded in Bujumbura. After the expiration of the ultimatum yesterday at 1800 local time, the possession of about 10 firearms was declared in Rohero Zone, six arms in Ngagara, and one in Bwiza. No arms were declared or surrendered in Musaga, Buyenzi or Nyakabiga. The town's northern zones of Kamenge, Kinama, and Cibitoke, whose leaders we met, remain tense. The head of Kamenge Zone said he no longer has access to his office. The head of Kinama Zone told us that people had left the zone en masse. Only armed elements remain there.

Chad

Delegation Arrives in Aozou To View Libyan Withdrawal

AB2504143094 Paris AFP in French 1305 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Ndjamen, 25 Apr (AFP)—The Chadian delegation charged with supervising the Libyan withdrawal from

Aozou Strip arrived in Aozou yesterday where it held a working session with the Libyan delegation, a communique issued by the office of the president in Ndjamena today pointed out. This meeting, which was attended by a UN delegation, was aimed, notably at fixing the timetable for the departure of the Libyan troops.

The Libyan withdrawal from Omchi is expected to end on 25 April in the part of the strip situated east of Aozou, the communique specified. In the west of the territory concerned, the following timetable was established: Withdrawal from Kirzo, "from around 20 May to 25 May;" withdrawal from Rasmia, from 26 to 28 May; withdrawal from Gazoumgoud, from 24 to 28 May, and last, withdrawal from Aozou "by midnight on 30 May." Thus, "up til midnight on 30 May, the civil and military administration in the various aforementioned localities will be Libyan."

Finally, the communique of the Chadian delegation, whose departure from Ndjamena was announced on 15 April, said "the minesweeping exercise continues despite some incidents on both the Libyan and Chadian sides." [passage omitted]

Rwanda

Government Envoys Hold News Conference in Kinshasa

AB2504150194 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1230 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] A Rwandan delegation held a news conference at the Intercontinental Hotel in Kinshasa yesterday. The delegation was made up of some of the ministers of President Habyarimana's government. The various delegation members spoke of the tragic situation in Rwanda.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] [Words indistinct] the Rwandan head of state against whom an attack was carried out on the night of 6 April. The Burundian head of state and close aides of the two presidents also lost their lives in the attack. There has been much loss of life and property all over the country following the resumption of hostilities by the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] in the capital and elsewhere in violation of the Arusha peace accords, as well as through citizen's ensuing anger. In view of this situation, the Rwandan Government, formed on 9 April, tried to install peace in accordance with the first of three missions assigned to it: the rapid restoration of (?order) and securing lives and property.

Within this framework the Rwandan Government has taken initiatives since (?12 April) to obtain a cease-fire. It has also expressed its gratitude for and accepted the role played by the mediators who at the RPF's own request on (?19 April) made available a text which was approved by the RPF [words indistinct] in Gbadolite. The government delegation [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Foreign Minister: RPF Cease-Fire 'Not Sincere'

LD2504205994 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] In Rwanda the unilateral cease-fire declared by the Patriotic Front [RPF] is due to come into force at 2200 GMT. However, this end to the fighting is conditional on an end to the massacres. Meanwhile, massacres and fighting are continuing in the capital, Kigali.

On the diplomatic and military fronts the situation is deadlocked between the two warring factions. The interim government has announced its own cease-fire from Zaire. Any dialogue seems more and more unlikely. Here is the foreign minister of the transitional government, Jerome Bicomupaka:

[Begin recording] [Bicomupaka] If the RPF wants to talk with the Rwandan army over the heads of the government, this is not possible. On the other hand, if the RPF wants to negotiate with soldiers under the authority of the Rwandan government, I believe that we can take the necessary steps to enable such a dialogue. The RPF cannot hope to dictate anything by refusing to recognize our government. I believe that the RPF is not sincere when it speaks of a cease-fire; had it been sincere it would not have started the hostilities on 6 and 7 April. This time, however, if the RPF, taking note of developments in the military sphere, in the political sphere, is changing its mind, if it wants a genuine cease-fire with proper guarantees, then we are ready to negotiate with the RPF, but we do not trust its statements.

[Correspondent Dominique de Courcelles] You, the government, have for your part declared a unilateral cease-fire, too. What is the situation regarding this cease-fire?

[Bicomupaka] [Words indistinct] of the Zairean president, we proposed a cease-fire. We hope that the Zairean president will forward this proposal to the RPF and that the latter will accept it. Either we negotiate and we have peace, or, if we do not want peace, if the RPF wants war, we hope to defeat it militarily. [end recording]

Lull in Fighting Reported; RPF Gains Territory

EA2604110494 (Clandestine) Radio Muhabura in Kinyarwanda to Rwanda 0415 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] In its 23 April communique, the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] declared unilaterally that it would stop fighting in all the areas it has liberated, from midnight last night, depending however, on the fulfillment of all its conditions.

It is worth recalling that the unilateral cease-fire comes at a time when RPF fighters have been doing well. The new positions taken together with the former neutral zone represent an area twice as big as the area which the RPF previously controlled before the resumption of the war this month. The RPF fighters have hugely increased the territory under their control, having added to it the area from which they had previously withdrawn.

There is a current lull in the fighting. The entire Mutara region and the entire Kibungo Prefecture are in RPF hands. Radio Rwanda has confirmed an Army Headquarters report that there is no fighting in these areas, and the Army Headquarters has also confirmed this by saying there is no fighting in Byumba. Indeed, the entire prefecture and town of Byumba were under RPF control by the time of the unilateral cease-fire. The same applies to most parts of Ruhengeri Prefecture. The cease-fire comes at a time when the whole prefecture is under RPF control. The same applies to the town of Kigali. By the time the cease-fire was declared, RPF fighters maintained control of the liberated areas, while remaining vigilant. The government forces had tried in vain to push them out of these areas.

That, in brief, was the situation as of yesterday, when the RPF and its fighters declared a unilateral cease-fire while at the same time remaining vigilant.

As you have just heard in our war front news, the RPF fighters have gone further than temporarily taking control of communes. They have also added the area from which they had previously withdrawn to their territory. In two weeks and four days—that is 18 days—the RPF fighters have gained control of the entire Mutara and Buganza regions. They have moved away from controlling only communes, and now control entire prefectures and their towns. Examples are Byumba Prefecture and its town and Kibungo and its town, which are in RPF hands.

Apart from that, the RPF fighters have displayed exceptional courage. The fighting which stopped last night had even moved into the capital where the RPF is in control of strategic military positions. We support the RPF fighters and are encouraged by the selflessness and courage that they continue to exhibit in the liberation of Rwanda, while protecting innocent people, as decided by the RPF.

Prime Minister-Designate: Troops Killed President

AB2604101394 Paris AFP in English 0448 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Excerpts] Nairobi, 26 Apr (AFP)—Faustin Twagiramungu, the man who was to bring Rwanda's Hutus and rebel Tutsis together in a broad-based interim government, accused Rwandan soldiers of killing their president to revive the civil war. A transitional government based on a peace agreement signed on August 4 last year was to include

members of the insurgent [Rwandan] Patriotic Front (RPF) most of whose members are from the Tutsi minority. But the ethnic bloodshed which broke out after President Juvenal Habyarimana's death on April 6 in a suspicious plane crash put paid to the plan.

"The soldiers wanted to stage a coup but they realised a coup would not win support and instead installed a government which would do what they wanted," said Twagiramungu, who has fled to Kenya where he is living at an undisclosed location. He said Monday [25 April] the "strongman" behind the alleged coup was a chief of staff at the Defence Ministry. [passage omitted]

Twagiramungu, 39, a member of the Republican Democratic Movement (MDR) - the main opposition party to the Habyarimana regime - is a Hutu. He was to have taken over as prime minister from Agathe Uwilingiyimana, also from the MDR. However Hutu hardliners in the presidential guard murdered Uwilingiyimana and would have killed Twagiramungu if he had not fled his home and left the country, he said. He said he had "jumped over the wall" into a neighbour's home from where he was taken aboard a United Nations armoured vehicle to the headquarters of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR). He stayed there until April 19.

Twagiramungu said he had had to leave his family at the home of another neighbour because there was only room in the UN vehicle for himself and his eight Bangladeshi bodyguards. Soldiers looted and machine-gunned his home after he left, he told journalists here. In the doomed plane carrying Habyarimana were also several of his closest aides including the Army chief of staff. The president of neighbouring Burundi Cyprien Ntaryamira and two of his ministers were also aboard, though Twagiramungu said that in his view "for the Burundians, it was an accident. No one knew they would be there."

Twagiramungu said the RPF had "nothing to gain" from killing the president and that it was more likely that Hutu extremists in the Army had done it to "revive the civil war" because they resented sharing power with the Tutsis. Twagiramungu accused these soldiers of having made several previous attempts to revive the fighting. One involved the murder of the minister of public works Felicien Gatabazi, who was shot dead in Kigali on February 21, he said.

Eritrea

Foreign Ministry Reviews Talks With Sudan

EA2404183994 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1600 GMT 23 Apr 94

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry in Asmara on 23 April]

[Excerpts] It is obvious that the relations between the people of Eritrea and Sudan are historical and long standing. On the basis of this view, and believing that the government of the national salvation revolution of Sudan would place its national interest and the peace and stability of the region above all else, our relations with Sudan were very special before the independence of Eritrea. To further strengthen and develop these relations, we have been working jointly with the Sudanese Government.

However, the National Islamic Front of Sudan, from its political bases in Sudan, wished to control a force in Eritrea and formed a group called the Islamic Jihad of Eritrea in 1989. It continued to support this group until and after the independence of Eritrea.

As the Government of Eritrea, we have placed those considerations regarding relations between the two nations above everything else and we hope that we will overcome the obstacles through communication and dialogue. We have made every effort to further strengthen and develop cooperation between the two peoples. It is true that we have noticed the positive role played by the Sudanese Government in controlling and containing the movements of this Eritrean group [Islamic Jihad], but since the middle of 1993 up to now this group has been carrying out its destructive activities, coming all the way from Sudan to collaborate with other groups from other regions.

This new development compelled us to tell our people and the international community everything about this. So the main reason for the deterioration in relations was that the destructive activities which had been directed against Eritrea had been emanating from Sudan. [passage omitted] The practical implementation of the agreement reached will guarantee positive developments in relations between the two countries.

Ethiopia

National Democratic Party Withdraws From Elections

AB2404123594 Dakar PANA in English 1633 GMT 23 Apr 94

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Apr (ENA/PANA)—The newly formed Ethiopian National Democratic Party (ENDP) announced in Addis Ababa on Saturday [23 April] that it

would not participate in the upcoming Constituent Assembly elections. The party said it decided to withdraw from the polls in protest against the rejection by the National Electoral Board of its demands for the extension of the deadline for the registration of voters and candidates. It said that another demand for the extension of the election date was also rejected by the board.

However, the ENDP vowed to continue participating in the ongoing council discussions and debates on the draft constitution.

People's Democratic Movement Announces Dissolution

EA2404164094 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1900 GMT 23 Apr 94

[Text] The executive committee of the Ura People's Democratic Movement, UPDM, has officially announced the dissolution of the organization effective 18 April. The UPDM's executive committee decided to dissolve the organization at its meeting held in Awasa town. The executive committee made the dissolution of the organization known in a letter addressed to the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY. The movement also noted that the movement's official documents, along with its seal and insignia, would be illegal as of that date.

The movement was formed to unite and organize the various nationalities in southern Omo Region and struggle for a common cause. But, since the various nations and nationalities have organized themselves, the movement unanimously resolved to restructure the movement's multinational structure to suit present political trends and to address the basic issues of the various nationalities.

Somalia

Rival Factions to Meet in Nairobi 10 May

AB2604110094 Paris AFP in English 0741 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] Nairobi, 26 Apr (AFP)—Rival Somali factions have agreed to hold a preparatory peace conference in the Kenyan capital on May 10, a United Nations spokesman said Tuesday [26 April]. The meeting was earlier scheduled for Monday but was postponed.

Later on Monday, representatives from Somalia's 15 main factions met in Mogadishu and decided on the new date, the spokesman George Bennett told AFP by telephone from the Somali capital. The conference will bring together representatives from the Somali National Alliance led by Mohamed Farah Aidid and those from the group of 15 factions headed by self-styled president Ali Mahdi Mohamed. The preparatory conference will prepare the ground for a conference of national reconciliation tentatively planned to take place on May 28 in Mogadishu.

Coverage of National, Provincial Elections

WA2604120594

For reportage on the South African elections, please see the South African Elections supplement to the 26 April 1994 and subsequent issues of the Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT.

Bombings Continue in Pretoria, Other Provinces

Explosion in Pretoria Suburb

MB2504191594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1855 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Pretoria April 25 SAPA—Police in Pretoria on Monday [25 April] night confirmed a blast, believed to have been a bomb, in Marabastad, a Pretoria suburb. Police spokesman Capt Evan Johnson said the explosion could have caused the death of a number of people. This was according to first reports on police radio channels. Police were investigating, he said. Marabastad is on the north side of central Pretoria in an area used by many black commuters.

2 Killed in Pretoria Blast

MB2504202394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2009 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Pretoria April 25 SAPA—Two people were killed and 29 injured in a bomb attack, apparently by whites on blacks in Pretoria on Monday [25 April] night. Police spokesman Lt David Harrington said two youths made the attack on diners at Solly's Restaurant in 7th Avenue, Marabastad. They then sped off in a blue Toyota RSI, according to initial reports. The injured were taken to H F Verwoerd Hospital. It was not immediately clear what type of explosive was used, but the blast was heard for a considerable distance. A police investigation was immediately begun, Lt Harrington said.

Electricity Pylon Blown Up in Free State

MB2604055394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0253 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] Bloemfontein April 26 SAPA—An electricity pylon was blown up about 5km from Bloemfontein on Monday [25 April], police said early on Tuesday. [Orange] Free State Police liaison officer, Col J Fouche, said the incident occurred on the Bloemfontein/Jagersfontein road but did not lead to any power cuts. No one was injured in the blast. Police are still trying to ascertain the type of explosive used in the blast. In another incident, telephone communication to and from the northern Free State town of Vierfontein was cut when two telephone poles were chopped down, Col Fouche said. The incident occurred at 9.10PM on Monday. No one was hurt and the communication will be restored by Telkom on Tuesday.

Bomb Found in National Party Office

MB2604095994 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 0430 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] The police have defused explosives found in the National Party's new Ventersdorp offices.

Bomb Explodes at Mine in W. Transvaal

MB2604063694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] The police in the Western Transvaal say that damage of about 25,000 rands has been caused by an explosion at the Vaal Reef Mine in Klerksdorp. However, reports say that no one was injured. The incident occurred at a parking garage of the mine's number five shaft early this morning. The police said that security guards had seen an unidentified man in the area before the blast. Industrial explosives are believed to have been used.

House Damaged by Bomb in Johannesburg

MB2604063994 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] In Bezuidenhout Valley, Johannesburg, a parked car was damaged and three windows of a nearby house were blown out when a petrol bomb was thrown at the vehicle. There were no injuries, and police are investigating a case of malicious damage to property. Earlier it was reported an explosion had occurred at an Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] pylon outside Bloemfontein. No damage was caused.

Bomb Explodes in Northern Cape Shop

MB2604114894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1118 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] Postmansberg April 26 SAPA—A bomb exploded at a shop in Boichoko township, Postmasburg in the Northern Cape on Tuesday [26 April] causing damage to goods and property worth about R10,000 [rand], SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports. A police spokesman said the Tuesday morning explosion shattered the shop's windows and damages roof tiles. No-one was injured. Police in the Northern Cape said they had reacted to 10 false bomb threats in the area.

W. Cape Police Respond to 34 Bomb Threats

MB2604100394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0921 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] Cape Town April 26 SAPA—Western Cape police responded to 34 hoax bomb threats on Monday [25 April] and Tuesday morning and a number of buildings were evacuated and searched, spokesman Col Raymond Dowd said on Tuesday. Security forces were fully deployed and ready to handle any situation, he said. Taxis from Khayelitsha to central Cape Town came to a halt early on Tuesday after an alleged bomb threat by

two white men. Security forces were patrolling all routes to Cape Town and a strong police presence would be maintained at all voting stations, Col Dowd said.

Official Says Person Held in Connection With Blasts

MB2504143794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1405 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Cape Town Apr 25 SAPA—A person was being interrogated in connection with the spate of bomb attacks over the past two days, the deputy minister of law and order, Mr Gert Myburgh, said on Monday [25 April]. He could not divulge any details for fear of jeopardising the investigation, he told a media conference here.

Police Deny Arresting Suspect in Car Bombings

MB2504180794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1753 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Johannesburg April 25 SAPA—Police on Monday [25 April] night denied a suspect was arrested in connection with car bombings in Johannesburg in the past two days. African National Congress National Chairman Thabo Mbeki earlier said passersby had made a citizen's arrest after seeing a white man running from a car which was packed with explosives. The suspect had parked the car outside a Department of Home Affairs office in Benoni on the East Rand, he said, adding police were dealing with the matter.

But police spokesman Col Steve Senekal said there was no truth in Mr Mbeki's statement. He said passersby had noticed a vehicle with a suspicious parcel inside. Police took the car away and searched it. There were no explosives. "We have been trying to get hold of Mr Mbeki to clarify the matter," Col Senekal said.

At least 19 people were killed and more than 130 were wounded in two car bomb attacks on Sunday and Monday.

Right-Wing Group Claims Germiston Blast, Threatens More

MB2604054094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2144 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Report by E Oelofse]

[Text] Johannesburg April 25 SAPA—A man claiming to be a spokesman for the Blanke Bevrydingsbeweging [White Liberation Movement] (BBB) telephoned a Johannesburg newspaper on Monday [25 April] night claiming his organisation was responsible for the bomb in Germiston which killed 10 people and injured 41. "The blast in Germiston will seem like a Sunday school picnic compared with what's to come," he told BEELD. "We will keep going until we get our 'volkstaat' [Afrikaner homeland]." BBB leader Prof Johan Schabert said on Monday night he knew nothing about the claim.

However, just as the African National Congress could not control its supporters so the BBB did not know all its people, he said.

Law, Order Minister Addresses Parliament on Security

MB2504125694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1128 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Parliament April 25 SAPA—Police had encountered logistical problems and a police officer made an error of judgement during attempts to search the ANC's Shell House headquarters following the fatal shooting of Zulu marchers, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, said on Monday [25 April].

Speaking during the debate on constitutional amendments, he said the unsuccessful search of Shell House would form part of a Goldstone Commission inquiry into the march and subsequent shootings. "The principle remains that no one is above the law. It is absolutely essential that we find out the truth as soon as possible."

Mr Kriel expressed regret at Monday's series of bomb blasts and said such incidents should never happen in a civilised country. The police assisted by the army would do their best to limit any escalation of violence during the election period.

"Reckless actions and omissions" by the ANC, IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] and the Conservative Party had created a climate for violence in the country.

The ANC and IFP were involved in internecine violence which had claimed thousands of lives. Their leaders had repeatedly failed to meet to discuss their differences. The CP [Conservative Party] had incited people to violence and CP leader Mr Ferdi Hartzenberg had publicly declared his party would use violent means if they did not get a volkstaat [Afrikaner homeland]. Mr Kriel said several recent blasts had been with dynamite, and asked where the dynamite came from.

The government had repeatedly warned the CP not to join forces with the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Resistance Movement—AWB], but the CP did not have the courage to distance itself from the AWB.

Botha: Bombings Will Not Stop Elections

MB2504125994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1136 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Parliament April 25 SAPA—Bombers were stupid and spineless if they believed they could stop the elections, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said on Monday [25 April].

Speaking in debate on constitutional amendments, he said those responsible for recent explosions would not halt the elections. "We will not allow ourselves to be

scared off. I appeal to all South Africans to take part in the elections with even greater dedication and determination."

Earlier, Mr Roger Burrows (DP [Democratic Party] Pinetown) said the DP utterly condemned the bombings and the bombers responsible for blasts in Johannesburg on Sunday, and in Germiston and Randfontein on Monday. "The people of South Africa must go to the polls with the firm belief it is democracy they are going to achieve."

Mandela Discusses Security Measures With de Klerk

MB2504152294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1423 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Johannesburg April 25 SAPA—African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela said he held talks with President F W de Klerk on Monday [25 April] morning to discuss tough new measures to hit back at the people behind the latest upsurge of bomb blasts.

Mr Mandela said he had also talked to Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and Police Commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe. "I was convinced they want to put an end to the violence."

Speaking at Hillbrow Hospital after visiting some of the victims of Sunday's Johannesburg blast, Mr Mandela said the proof of this would be in the implementation. "I am convinced tough measures if applied can bring these people to book. I hope what we discussed will be implemented firmly. I hope the government acts in a way to remove the impression it's a government of weaklings."

Nine people were killed and nearly 100 injured in Sunday's car bomb explosion in Johannesburg. Twelve explosions in all have occurred since Saturday, including another massive blast at a Germiston black taxi rank on Monday morning which killed 10 people and injured 36.

The ANC president said the security forces were doing the best they could in difficult circumstances and he hoped their response following his latest talks with the government "will raise the confidence of the public".

The forces of peace were far stronger than those who wished to cause violence, he said. "We are one country and one people... I want you to look to the future with hope and confidence." People should turn up in large numbers to vote to show their defiance to those who did not want the elections.

The country's first all-race election begins on Tuesday.

Inside the hospital, Mr Mandela spoke to some of the victims of the Johannesburg blast including 29-year-old David Maimela, who told SAPA he was visiting his girlfriend when it occurred. "I think it's very bad. It's not right to try to stop the elections. This is the first time we are going to vote." Mr Maimela's one ankle was fractured and his forehead was lacerated by shrapnel.

Thirty-three-year-old Eric Ngxalose, short-order cook at a Midtown fast food outlet, was coming to work when the bomb, estimated to have comprised 70-90kg of explosives, went off. Mr Ngxalose's leg was injured.

Mr Levy Khumalo, 51, was also hit by shrapnel. A resident of Jeppe Hostel, he was in town on Sunday morning to visit his children, who sell clothes in the city centre. Speaking through a Zulu interpreter, Mr Khumalo told SAPA he was shocked by the explosion. "I was not expecting that." He told nurses he did not want to see Mr Mandela, and his bed was curtained off when the ANC leader arrived.

ANC's Mbeki Blames Police for Terror Escalation

LD2604095794 London ITV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Interview with ANC National Chairman Thabo Mbeki by announcer Jon Snow in Johannesburg on 25 April—recorded]

[Text] [Snow] I've been speaking to the chairman of the ANC, Thabo Mbeki, and I asked him if he thought he was being told the whole truth about what was happening and whether he was confident that the bombings could be stopped?

[Mbeki] The problem, Jon, is either the incapacity or the unwillingness of the police to deal with this problem. Fortunately what is happening now is that a fair amount of information is beginning to accumulate as to who is involved. That's more than 50 percent of the battle—to discover who actually is involved in a sense of planning the activities of this third force leading it, controlling it, and I'm saying that a fair amount of information is getting accumulated, much of which the police might indeed have had, but have been either unwilling or for some reason or other incapable of acting against them, a new government....

[Snow, interrupting] Is the unwillingness though because the police are too close to these people?

[Mbeki] Because many of them come from within the police force. They come from within the police force and I think that many of the police are unwilling to act against their colleagues.

[Snow] So how can you change that? You can't do it overnight.

[Mbeki] It'll change, it'll change because the rot does not affect the entirety of the police force. But the way the police have been structured up to now is in a sense like a military organization, where junior officers get afraid to act until a more senior officer acts, and aware the senior officer is a person involved in third force activities then the organization gets paralyzed. No it's not as though the whole police force was in that sort of position, I think there will be many police, policemen and women who

will be quite ready to act against this third force even out of a sense of restoring the professional integrity of the service.

[Snow] Is a large measure of what's happening basically a very frustrated extreme, rightwing white community that want's to set up a volkstaat, and is there any prospect of them ever being able to do so?

[Mbeki] I don't think it's the people who want to establish a volkstaat, I think it's the people who don't accept that there should be change. People who cannot accept that you can have a democratic government which because of the demography of this country will be in the majority black. They don't want that. They don't want any alteration of this system, and therefore say that we make sure that we shoot and kill so hard that such alteration will not occur.

[Snow] But then that suggests that if these people aren't prepared even before the election to accept the principle of a black majority government after the election, you may be forced to issue banning orders and then start arresting these people.

[Mbeki] No. You see we have to get to the leadership, the organizers, the planners of this kind of violent activity that we are seeing now in the run-up to the elections. I don't think it's a matter of banning organizations.

[Snow] You see I interviewed Mr. Terreblanche [Afrikaner Resistance Movement leader] over the weekend and he said: Well, I don't encourage it, but this is going to happen, and I can understand why it's going to happen, and there will be more and more of it. That's exactly what he said. Now this is almost tantamount to encouraging it, therefore will you not be forced to move against people like Mr. Terreblanche?

[Mbeki] Sure, Terreblanche is encouraging it, but what I'm saying, Jon, is that what's critically important is not so much Terreblanche, it's the people who are actually planning, organizing, accumulating weapons, accumulating explosives, distributing them, training people, ordering people to go and place a bomb here or there, ordering somebody to go and assassinate and so on, we need to get to those people.

Parties Express Concern Over Latest Bombings

MB2504195694 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Excerpts] A man is being detained for questioning in connection with the spate of bomb explosions during the last two days. This information was announced by the deputy minister of law and order, Mr. Gert Myburgh. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen] The security situation in our country is critical, and I believe that the levels of violence have overtaken any level at which one can have an election and later say the election was free and fair. It is a pity,

because we have been hoping all along that we could have constitutional peace with all the groups before continuing with the process.

[Afrikaner Resistance Movement member Fred Rundle] It is not our people. I do not know who it is. You must remember that there are literally hundreds of organizations which, just like ours, do not want to fall under a communist government. And these people—it can be any one of these people. I do not know who it is. [end recording]

The Democratic Party has expressed condolences with the next of kin of those killed in the bomb blasts. The PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] has said the attacks follow a pattern as the targets have been groups of black people or offices used by liberation groups. The party has asked voters to vote for the sake of peace and wisdom.

Parliament Approves Amendment on Zulu Monarchy

MB2504135294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1306 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Parliament April 25 SAPA—The constitution of the Republic of South Africa second amendment bill was approved unanimously by Parliament on Monday [25 April]. The Conservative Party abstained. The bill strengthens the constitutional position of the Zulu monarchy in the KwaZulu/Natal provincial constitution.

De Klerk: ANC 'Amenable' on Issue of General Amnesty

MB2504135594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1312 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Parliament April 25 SAPA—The African National Congress seemed amenable to a general amnesty for all people guilty of, or associated with, political crimes, the state president, Mr F W de Klerk, said on Monday [25 April]. Speaking in debate on constitutional amendments, he said important breakthroughs had been achieved on the issue following negotiations with the ANC, among others. The government had noticed a fundamental shift in the ANC's attitude as a result of talks, with that organisation realising there would not be a new police or defence force after the elections.

The amnesty deadline had been set at October 8, 1990, but it could be revised in the course of negotiations on further constitutional amendments. "The government has a firm commitment to October 8, but in interaction with all parties there can be shifts within the framework of the constitution."

ANC Clarifies Position on Granting Indemnity

MB2604070394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2224 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Statement issued by the ANC on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 25 April]

[Text] The president of the African National Congress (ANC), Comrade Nelson Mandela, has on a number of occasions pronounced on the issue of indemnity for members of the security forces who have been involved in criminal activities in defence of apartheid. The most recent pronouncement was made in Durban on Sunday 24th April.

The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the ANC on 29th August 1993 called for a full investigation of all the abuses that occurred under the apartheid system, pointing out that the National Party (NP) government has never accepted collective or individual responsibility for the abuses of the regime. The ANC has always been of the opinion that the NP government has neither the moral right nor the authority to unilaterally indemnify itself or its agents for wrongs committed in the past. That right can only be exercised by a government representative of all the people of South Africa. Such indemnity shall occur subject to full disclosure of the violations committed.

Disclosure should not be viewed as punitive, but is a necessary precondition for national reconciliation. The ANC re-affirms that position.

The principle of indemnity has never been under dispute between ourselves and the NP government. Following the adoption of the Groote Schuur Minute in May 1990, the NP government and the ANC jointly arrived at a formula, which was translated into legislation, whose terms defined 8th October 1990 as the cut off date for all acts for which indemnity could be sought. That legislation remains operative. The ANC which was integrally involved in the conception and elaboration of the terms of that law, remains fully committed to its letter and spirit.

Comrade Nelson Mandela's reiteration of the ANC's position regarding indemnity in Durban on Sunday, implies that, subject to full disclosure, the ANC is fully committed to granting indemnity to all members of the security forces for acts of commission or omission, that violated the rights of others committed before the agreed cut off date, 8th October 1990.

Sadly, numerous violations continued after that date. Hit squads, assassinations, covert operations, and paramilitary activities that wreaked havoc on our communities escalated. Thousands of people lost their lives, including entire African families. Respected judicial commissions and other official investigative bodies have repeatedly implicated members of the security forces in such crimes. The affected communities have also alleged that members of the security forces colluded and involved themselves in destabilisation activities.

It would be presumptuous of the ANC or any other party to seek to exonerate the perpetrators of these crimes unilaterally. In two days time the South African people will be going to the polls to elect a democratic parliament. That parliament, will, among other tasks, be charged with a thorough re-examination of the past, by

setting in motion a process of national disclosure of all violations of human rights from all sides. A democratic parliament could then exercise its discretion as to how the matter is to be handled.

The ANC reiterates its commitment to the norms of democracy based on respect for human dignity and the rights of all persons irrespective of race, class, gender or creed.

Defense Force To Provide Inauguration Honor Guard

MB2604070794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2159 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Pretoria April 25 SAPA—About 900 South African National Defence Force (SANDF) troops will provide a guard of honour at the inauguration of South Africa's new president in Pretoria on May 10.

South African Defence Force Chief Commandant-General Georg Meiring said in Pretoria on Monday the new SANDF would play an important role in the elections and inauguration of the president and deputy presidents of the government of national unity.

The army will co-ordinate the SANDF's participation in the ceremonies in Cape Town and Pretoria from May 6 to 10.

Troops consisting of members of different forces in the SANDF will line the route in Church Street from the Presidency to the Union Buildings for the inauguration on May 10.

They will wear South African army camouflage uniform, trimmed with red and white, and will withdraw as soon as the president has passed by.

The army will provide a guard of honour at the Union Buildings. A 21-gun salute will be fired and a South African Air Force fly-past will honour the new president.

Heads of state and other foreign dignitaries arriving at Waterkloof Air Force Base in Pretoria will be greeted by Air Force and Medical Services guards of honour. Dignitaries arriving at Jan Smuts Airport near Johannesburg will be met by an army guard of honour.

Gen Meiring said this would be the first large-scale ceremonial appearance of the SANDF.

South African Press Review for 24 Apr

MB2404112794

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

Election Seen as Cause for Celebration—Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English in an editorial entitled "Laying the Foundation for Our Future," on page 40 on 24 April says that the coming election is a time for

celebration for South Africans. South Africans will vote, it says, because "this election, and this election alone, must lay the foundation of the future for them, for their children and their children's children." The editorial welcomes the followers of Chief Buthelezi and Constand Viljoen into the election, saying "no South African should stand aside in angry isolation." Referring to the atrocities of apartheid, the paper says: "To have come from such a past to our present condition is truly a miracle." It notes that some "foreign observers...notably the Sunday Times in London, lapsed into gleeful anticipation of disaster, attaching it first to the right wing and to the army or police, and later to Inkatha or to a wider Zulu nationalism. In the event, the armed forces have not mutinied, nor have the police rebelled, and Inkatha has led the Zulu people, dancing with joy, into the elections." Apartheid, the editorial points out, has created "mountainous problems" that must still be solved, such as poverty and illiteracy. Furthermore, "minorities, still flocking to the banner of the National Party," are trying "to cling to privilege or fondle fears of the future." Nevertheless, it concludes, South Africans over the past four years "have shown that we are able to find solutions. And that is reason enough to join the Zulus in celebration."

SUNDAY NATION

Vote for ANC Urged—Johannesburg SUNDAY NATION in English on 24 April carries beneath its masthead on page 1, a nearly full-page reproduction of the South African flag with a large "THE END!" stamped over it. In the lower right corner of the flag is the following editorial statement: "We have come to the eve of our liberation and stand ready to reclaim a right we have been denied for centuries—the right to vote and take charge of our destiny. But as we prepare to exercise this right, we dare not take a retrogressive step and delay our freedom. There is simply no reason to prolong for one minute the poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, violence and racism that National Party rule has come to symbolise so powerfully. Nor is there any moral justification for extending the life of any of its partners in apartheid. Our destiny demands that we vote for democracy, peace and reconciliation. It demands that we vote for the ANC."

WEEKEND STAR

Need for Multiparty Government Seen—In an editorial entitled "Use Your Vote for South Africa's Salvation," Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English on page 10 of its 23 April edition, finds reasons to vote for several parties. After noting that "none of the competing parties deserves unqualified support," the editorial continues by stating: "Firstly, the Democratic Party [DP] most closely espouses the principles we cherish, and we consider its presence in government to be essential....Votes for the DP will not be wasted—they will be votes for multi-party government." The ANC, the editorial continues, "has earned its place as the major party in a government of national unity." "Nelson Mandela...is the only man with

the stature to hold us together and set us firmly on the new road." Looking to the future, however, the editorial cautions: "But in the second election the ANC should be judged according to its performance. While it boasts many men and women of outstanding quality, it also harbours some deeply irresponsible and dangerous elements." The editorial also notes a "compelling case for getting the talents of other parties—including the National Party—into the new Parliament." The editorial calls the ANC's Reconstruction and Development Program "the most substantial contribution to the policy debate during the election campaign." The paper says the plan has "many positive aspects," but argues that the ANC will have to be more convincing about its "cost implications" and about how productivity is to be increased.

RAPPORT

Editorial Urges Vote Against ANC—"South Africa stands on the threshold of one of the biggest, if not the biggest development in its existence," begins a page-24 editorial in the Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans on 24 April. "For true democratic freedom, the rights of the individual, the right to private ownership, the right to freedom of association, the right to protect your own language, the right to freedom of religion—every South African should fulfill his basic democratic right—he must vote." "Of course, many are hesitant." "Of course mistakes were made during the negotiations process. This newspaper has never hesitated to point out these faults. It also does not plan to be silenced in future." "Two real dangers exist. The first is the refusal to vote with the argument, among others, that one should not participate in a 'godless' dispensation." "The second real danger is a party adopting plans which have failed miserably in other places—a party prepared to maneuver its communist partner into parliament under its wing." "The real ANC has not stood up yet and if it does stand up in future, will it be with the face of a Lenin or a Stalin?" "RAPPORT urgently encourages its readers to go and vote—against the ANC, which has still not found its true soul and which should not be allowed to apply communist principles."

South African Press Review for 26 Apr
MB2604160194

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Johannesburg Bomb Blast 'Bloody Madness'—"Madness. Sheer, bloody madness" is how Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 25 April in its page-6 editorial describes the bomb blast in central Johannesburg on 24 April. "Since the explosion was near both the ANC PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] regional and Pan-Africanist Congress offices, we can safely assume that it was intended as an attack on one of

them, probably the ANC." Ultimately, the explosion was "a futile" deed since "the election will go on. Nothing will stop it."

THE STAR

'Wild Men' of Right Need To Be Addressed After Election—Referring to the bomb explosions that have shaken the country since Sunday, 24 April, Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 April in a page-18 editorial says: "We should have expected the merciless actions of the wild men of the Right. Now that this stage is upon us, let it not drag the country off its momentous course." Firstly, the bombers should be tracked down and brought to justice. Secondly, they should be made to understand that "they achieve nothing." "There is a belief among such people that they can blast their way to the future security they seek. In reality, they do the reverse." "Reason cannot speak to the wild men themselves; but it can speak to their families and friends, the confidantes and advisers upon whose tacit support the bombers depend." In conclusion, the paper warns "it is clear that the concerns of the right wing—both inside and out of the constitution—have not been met. We have, miraculously, come to this election without them. In the early aftermath, our leaders must turn with utmost sincerity to finding the rightists, too, a place in the sun."

BUSINESS DAY

Bomb Blasts; FF Needs To be Addressed After Election—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 April in a page-16 editorial says the rash of bomb blasts since 24 April should be viewed as "a desperate but doomed last ditch flourish perpetrated by a dying movement." BUSINESS DAY believes the "dissident, non-participating right wing has been reduced to two groups. First there is a small coterie of ineffectual CP [Conservative Party] politicians, centred on Ferdi Hartzenberg.

Second is the more dangerous—though often clownish—group of shadowy mini-armies, numbering perhaps a thousand individuals. Given effective police intelligence work, this guerrilla threat is far from unmanageable. Compared to the now disappearing prospect of civil war in Natal, the bombers are a minor problem." South Africa faces a period of "vicious though limited terrorism" which may intimidate voters, but the best response would be to "go out and vote in the new South Africa. The more these brutal elements are isolated, the better." The government is also warned "not to treat the Freedom Front lightly once the election is over. To do so would invite a mushrooming of the dangerous right."

SOWETAN

Bomb Blasts Attempt To Cause 'Panic'—We are outraged at the senseless killing of innocent people through the use of car bombs," declares a page-12 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 26 April. "We urge our people to make it their business to go out and vote instead of being frightened off by these enemies of progress. They are out to cause as much panic and fear as they can to disrupt the elections. The opposite will in fact become the truth."

CITY PRESS

ANC's Mandela 'Head and Shoulders' Above Other Parties—"We, the people of South Africa, declare for all our country and the world to know that as from Wednesday [27 April] a truly new South Africa will be born," declares a front-page editorial in Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English on 24 April. "While there are many men and women of vision who made this day possible, ANC President Nelson Mandela undoubtedly stands head and shoulders above all who finally took us to this glorious and momentous day. We thank God almighty. Let us go to the polls on Wednesday and vote for a party we can trust with our lives."

Angola**Negotiators Discuss Specifics of Elections***MB2504195194 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Apr 94*

[Text] The delegations of the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] met alone today to discuss the issue of specific principles governing the second round of presidential elections. There are reports that the UNITA team has demanded that the Electoral Law be reviewed. Alves Antonio, our correspondent in the Zambian capital, reports:

[Begin Antonio recording] Good evening. At the Lusaka peace talks UNITA has defended the need to review the Electoral Law. The specific principles contained in the point on the conclusion of the presidential elections has continued to dominate the talks. The two teams again met alone today in a bid to find ways and methods to overcome the stalemate. Though the practical results of the meeting are not known yet, official sources believe that the government and UNITA teams are about to strike an understanding.

Meanwhile, Radio Angola learned earlier this evening that UNITA is now pushing for a review of some chapters in the Electoral Law. The United Nations has rejected that request. The United Nations believes that respect must be shown for Angolan sovereignty and for this country's democratic institutions. In view of that, the Electoral Law review now requested by UNITA will be entirely up to the Angolan Parliament where, incidentally, 60 seats are reserved for UNITA. Official sources close to the talks have said that UNITA's request has been set aside.

Other reliable sources have told Radio Angola that this country's Electoral Law is a perfect [as heard] document that is superior to similar laws in many other countries. In view of that, those sources regard the review of that document as inopportune. They also noted that UNITA itself had helped draw up the Electoral Law.

Meanwhile, the United Nations has already expressed an interest in providing material and financial assistance to the process of the second round of presidential elections. Such assistance would include participation by observer, security, control, and verification personnel.

There is the belief that the Lusaka peace talks may experience new developments within the next few days. It is a matter of waiting and seeing. [end recording]

MPLA Official Decries Savimbi's Ministerial Demands*MB2504205194 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Apr 94*

[Text] The Lusaka peace talks may continue to be productive, but the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] leader has dampened

everybody's optimism when he again complicated matters by demanding that his organization govern Huambo, Bie, and Benguela Provinces at any cost. He alleges that the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] did not win elections in those provinces. MPLA Information Secretary Joao Lourenco, who is also a deputy in the National Assembly, has just told the People's Television of Angola, TPA, that UNITA must accept that it lost the September 1992 elections. He added that those elections had been general and not regional.

[Begin Lourenco recording] Jonas Savimbi is a real cheeky fellow, but we do not believe he has the right to make the demands that he just made. He must recognize that he lost the September 1992 elections. He must behave as a loser and not as a winner. The winning party formed the government. As a matter of good will, it decided to open government to several figures in opposition parties, including of course UNITA, which is led by Mr. Jonas Savimbi. It should be understood, though, that this was a government offer and not something the government was obliged to do. [end recording]

Commenting on the ministerial portfolios demanded by UNITA, MPLA Information Secretary Joao Lourenco warned that the government's patience has a limit. He added that UNITA's demands are quite absurd.

[Begin Lourenco recording] This is a matter that must be made quite clear. UNITA did not win the September 1992 elections. It cannot demand—there is nothing that awards it that right—to be given this or that ministerial portfolio, particularly when it comes to portfolios that the government believes should not be in the hands of opposition parties. We believe that the government has shown great generosity. If one looks at the number of portfolios that the government has given the opposition in general, and UNITA in particular, one surely will find that they add up to a considerable number. Such portfolios include posts such as ministers, deputy ministers, governors of certain provinces, and administrators of districts and communes, and they make up a considerable number. In view of that, the government believes that UNITA must not continue to make demands concerning central and provincial government posts. [end recording]

UNITA Claims Military Successes in Cuanza Norte*MB2504151394 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Apr 94*

[Text] The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] forces are doing their utmost to occupy N'dalatando, the capital of Cuanza Norte Province. The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] armed forces, however, have firmly defended the area and are dealing serious blows to the men led by Eduardo dos Santos.

(Morais Abel), the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent in the area, is on the line and reports on the clashes:

[Begin (Abel) recording] Clashes in Cuanza Norte Province [words indistinct] significant changes over the last 48 hours. The army led by Joao de Matos, MPLA-PT chief of General Staff [words indistinct] even with weapons in their hands, do not know what (?to do) and are suffering heavy losses on the various operational fronts.

On 24 April our glorious UNITA armed forces put to flight the enemy forces trying to break our lines in the areas of [words indistinct] the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]-Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] troops left 15 soldiers confirmed killed on the ground. A large number of their soldiers were also wounded [words indistinct] their dead.

Also as a result of that adventure, our forces destroyed one [words indistinct] the enemy forces [words indistinct] Lucala 2 River [words indistinct] with the following results: 11 FAPLA-FAA soldiers killed, (?23) wounded, and our forces captured two RPG-7 rocket launchers, 13 [name indistinct] rocket launchers, 16 (?60) mm shells [words indistinct] SGM ammunition, nine [words indistinct] bombs, 150 South African-made R-4 clips, 1,300 rounds of ammunition for R-4 weapons, 4,700 rounds of ammunition for AKM weapons, 200 [words indistinct] hand grenades, 130 rounds for RPG-7 rocket launchers, 19 (?backpacks) [words indistinct] 20 bullet-proof (?vests) [words indistinct] Riot Police, 38 (?AKM) [words indistinct] as we talk to you, the situation is completely under control.

We are going to [words indistinct] victory [words indistinct] our forces' morale is very high. They also say that the MPLA-PT forces are our best logistical sources [words indistinct] to the bitter end. [end recording]

Further on Situation in Huila, Cuito

MB2504210594 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Excerpts] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] wants to capture the capital of Huila Province's Jamba Mineira District. Jonas Savimbi's men are applying pressure on the area and have already carried out a number of attacks, which have all met with a prompt response from the government forces.

Over the last few days, UNITA moved and deployed three battalions over a radius of 15 km north and east of Jamba Mineira District. (?The next) will be UNITA's fourth attack on the area this month and its aim is to occupy it. The UNITA forces were repelled in the first three clashes, leaving 38 soldiers killed on the ground, along with the equipment they were carrying.

On 14 April one UNITA battalion attacked Jamba Commune in Lubango District, but Savimbi's men met

with stiff resistance and were put to flight. They left 17 soldiers killed on the ground and our forces also took three prisoners. [passage omitted]

The precarious calm that has prevailed over Cuito was broken yet again yesterday. Jonas Savimbi's men and their weapons made it clear that the city and its residents could once again experience the horrors of war at any time.

Yesterday morning the UNITA [word indistinct] troops attacked government positions in the northern part of Cuito. The 10-minute attack occurred at about 0700 and resulted in the death of one child. Sources in the Angolan Armed Forces Operational Command have disclosed that the UNITA forces are continuing to carry out provocative operations to try and find a pretext that would allow them to fulfill their plans to attack Cuito. That source added that, as part of their provocative ploys, on 23 April they fired a shell at the government position in the north of Cuito.

Lesotho

Information Secretary on Threats To Kill Ministers

MB2204154394 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Apr 94

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Yesterday we reported that six ministers had mysteriously left the country, the rumor in Maseru being that they had fled in fear of their lives. But government sources maintained they had left for official duties. Well, two of the ministers have returned and another four are expected to return shortly, according to the principal secretary for information, Seeiso Serutla. Koja Berwado got in touch with Mr. Serutla on the line to Maseru and asked him why the ministers had decided to come back.

[Begin recording] [Serutla] This is as a result of the army having accepted their pay cheques because the ministers had to flee because of the allegations of threats on their lives, when the armed forces received their salaries, which apparently did not include the increase.

[Berwado] So, is it the case that the army has now been paid these new wages with the 100 percent increase which they demanded?

[Serutla] No, at the moment there is no increase in their salaries, but the army has accepted that there will be an increase and there are some increases in their salaries for May, which obviously will be backdated from April. Let me make it clear that it is not 100 percent, as the army (?heard).

[Berwado] So, how much is it?

[Serutla] I am not sure about the percentage, but it is certainly not 100 percent.

[Berwado] Who exactly is in charge of the country at the moment? I mean, is it the army or is it the government?

[Serutla] The Government of Lesotho, through the prime minister, Dr. Ntsu Mokhehle, is the government of this country, and they are still there.

[Berwado] So, now, you are definitely going to see a kind of a backlash of this situation that erupted last week?

[Serutla] I cannot guarantee you anything as, I mean, the army in Lesotho is obviously a problem, and I can't guarantee anything. All I can say is that we are talking and we are in the process of talking to each other.

[Berwado] And who in the army are you negotiating with? Who is in charge of the army at the moment?

[Serutla] A major general.

[Berwado] Mr. Serutla, it is quite a worrying prospect if you say the army have agreed, but then there are no guarantees. What about the political situation?

[Serutla] What kind of guarantees would you want? I mean, they have guaranteed to us that they have accepted some increases in their pay salaries, whatever it is. They have said they have settled down and that we will continue talking to each other.

[Berwado] On the question of the mutineers who killed the deputy prime minister last week, are they going to be brought to book?

[Serutla] Well, I want to leave that question really to the head of the army. It is their job, whenever there is anything like that to deal with it as it is appropriate.

[Berwado] Have they indicated that they are going to deal with that aspect of the situation?

[Serutla] Well, not to me personally.

[Berwado] Do you believe they will?

[Serutla] I believe that. The situation in Lesotho was bad by killing the deputy prime minister, and that the only way which will advance peace in Lesotho is for the law breakers to be seen to be punished for what they have done, I mean that is my personal view. I mean, I think in any civilized country that is what we expect.

Mozambique

Dhlakama Comments on Future Government, Other Issues

MB2504204794 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese
17 Apr 94 p 5

[Text] Afonso Dhlakama has said that the candidate receiving the second highest vote total in the presidential elections must be appointed vice president of the Republic. With regard to the legislative elections, the party receiving the second highest vote total should have

ministerial representation in government. The Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] has said that it does not plan any type of interparty government, but it stresses that the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] had rejected such a political solution as far back as 1984, after the Nkomati Accord was signed.

"I have not yet presented this proposal to my brother, President Chissano, but that is my dream, and I have already talked about it with diplomats. Many people ask: What does the president dream, and I say that is the dream I have, not because the country is completely ravaged, but rather because in Africa it is very difficult to find victors and vanquished working together in the first years after elections," Afonso Dhlakama said.

According to the Renamo leader, "the party (candidate) that comes second ought to be appointed vice president of the Republic and, in terms of government itself, the party that comes second should also have some ministers in it. That is the government I dream of."

These and other details concerning a proposed government of national unity, GNU, were not discussed when Chissano and Dhlakama met last week, but the Renamo leader says that "some diplomats with whom I have met have talked a great deal about it."

In his meeting with the president of the Republic, "we discussed the GNU issue, but there was no agreement. I simply told him that all wars in Mozambique have had their own histories: The war against Portuguese colonialism had its history, Renamo's war for democracy had its history, and democracy itself will have its history."

As the Renamo leader explained, this means that "the party which wins the first multiparty elections in this country must not seek to govern alone, so as to avoid attacks, acts of revenge, and so forth."

Renamo leader Dhlakama added: "I have said before that we must make use of experiences of others, because any democracy has its own history. We do not believe that Frelimo, Renamo, the Mozambique Democratic Party (Pademo), or the Mozambican National Union (Unamo) can govern the country alone. With those conditions in mind, if we look at the history of the United States, or of Portugal, we will see that in Portugal 16 governments fell in the wake of the 25 April 1974 revolution, after which the Portuguese learned their lesson. So we cannot just proceed to copy what the Americans or the Italians are doing today."

An African diplomat who noted that it was strange that democracy should be demanded for Africa said: "It is immediately clear that it is not Dhlakama's idea. When the moment of truth comes, people turn around and say that Africa is not ready for democracy, so they start coming up with any number of formulas to alter the people's wishes, the outcome of the vote. Elections should be held for useful purposes. They should not be held for nothing, as though no elections had taken place. If elections are held simply for there to be no difference

between victors and vanquished, then you might as well save millions upon millions of dollars and spend them more wisely on rebuilding our nations."

Afonso Dhlakama also said that he will compete in the presidential elections, should the Renamo special congress endorse his candidacy. He added that, if he were to win, "I shall indeed be president of the Republic, no matter what my previous experience. The decision will be the people's, and I am going to present my government program to the country." (In Maringue a few days later, the Renamo special congress confirmed him as Renamo's candidate in the upcoming presidential elections).

The Renamo leader believes that 12 or 20 parties can govern the country together during the first five years after elections, "learning, being courageous, agreeing to being self-critical, and all the rest. In the next election, five years hence—that is when there should be victors, and the vanquished will join the opposition and will not touch the government."

Labor Minister Teodato Hunguana reacted on behalf of the government: "That there should be neither victors nor vanquished was a phrase we used, from a military viewpoint, to say that war produces neither. That was said in terms of the General Peace Accord about the end of the war. In terms of political governance, though, we said there should be a multiparty system and elections. Thus, elections must produce a winner."

Labor Minister Teodato Hunguana disclosed that, in the wake of the Nkomati Peace Accord between Mozambique and South Africa in 1984, the Mozambican Government had held Pretoria-mediated talks with Renamo. There was the admission at those talks that the war might be settled with political accommodation for Renamo. The South African Government even proposed the opening of schools to train Renamo members in the border areas of Namaacha and Milange.

"It was in that spirit that the famous Pretoria Declaration was made in October 1984, with great protocol and pomp, but then Renamo pulled out and reneged on what it had signed. There was the famous phone call to [late Renamo member] Mr. Evo Fernandes, who pulled out of that plan. Political accommodation for Renamo was the plan, meaning a cessation to the war and reintegration, which would naturally have led to a Frelimo-Renamo government, but Renamo rejected it in full," Minister Teodato Hunguana said.

He also revealed that later, well before the Rome peace talks had begun, the government took up once again the proposal to reintegrate Renamo. That proposal, meanwhile, had been rejected by Renamo, which demanded a multiparty system and elections as the only way to settle the problem.

The government's position continues to be that the party that wins elections has the responsibility to find solutions that will guarantee peace, stability, and a balanced

government in the country, but, in Teodato Hunguana's words, the winning party must not be told what or what not to do. He added that "we can defend our ideas. We are free to do so, but no one should ever defend his ideas by resorting to the blackmail of warfare, armed violence, or the threat of armed violence to try to get others to agree."

Hunguana described the Renamo leader's demands as predating the Rome talks and added that he was not clear about the GNU concept. He said, however: "Let there be no confusion. Neither Frelimo nor the government are saying that they are brushing aside any type of interparty government. Such a government could very well result from the search for correct solutions. It is perfectly imaginable that as a result of the elections a government will be formed that will reflect such tendencies, but that will not be an automatic development."

The labor minister described as strange Afonso Dhlakama's idea that the vice president should come from the party receiving the second highest vote total, because that is not written into the Constitution. He affirmed, however, that a political argument—rather than a legal one—could be used, as long as it also recognized the problem of proportion: A party can come second with 40 percent of the vote and a party can come second with 5 percent.

Chissano Views Political Reconciliation, Competition

MB2504185294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Report by correspondent Luis Fernandes in Beira]

[Excerpt] President of the Republic Joaquim Alberto Chissano repeated in Beira today the message he had conveyed during his tour of Gaza Province: that we must all work to rebuild the country and to create better living conditions for the people. The Mozambican head of state conveyed that message—which we perceived to be conciliatory—when he commented on the report presented by the Sofala Provincial Government now that he is touring that province. Chissano said that, quote, if we have the understanding that that is a common goal, we will always see our ideas as contributing toward the resolution of problems, unquote.

[Begin Chissano recording] It is true that we have reached a stage when there are two issues that are talked about in such a way as to be made to look contradictory. That should not be the case. Much is said in connection with political competition and there is also a lot of talk about national reconciliation. This has caused some confusion—namely, the perception that political competition can be destructive. Others believe that political reconciliation is tantamount to scrapping political competition. That should not be the case. We have decided that political competition is desirable, so we have created a multiparty system. Let us compete politically, but let us do it constructively. We must not think, however,

that reconciliation means we all toe the same political line and we all share the same views concerning national reconstruction. There is opposition. That has to be recognized. There is opposition. Reconciliation means that we are going to engage in serious political fighting, but that we will do so with respect, so that it will not interfere with the economy, in the sense that it could be sabotaged. [end recording]

The report presented by the Sofala Provincial Government generally deals with the impact of war, natural disasters, and political and economic developments over the last two years. [passage omitted]

Joint Commander Interviewed on Future of Army

MB2504155994 Maputo SAVANA in Portuguese
15 Apr 94 p 12, 13

[Interview with General Mateus Ngonhamo, joint commander of the Supreme Command of the FADM, by Lourenco Jossias on 12 April; place not given]

[Text] [Jossias] General, could you tell us what are the duties of FADM [Mozambique Defense Armed Forces]?

[Ngonhamo] Well, there are various duties because, as in any country in the world, its infrastructures ought to be defended and independence ought to be upheld. Those are the duties of the FADM: to defend independence and Mozambique's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

[Jossias] What sort of an army will we have in our country? Will it be an army for purely defensive operations or will it also be geared toward attacking—an internationalist army?

[Ngonhamo] Right now, your question has many answers. It is our desire to have a professional and nonpartisan army with defensive and offensive capabilities. If we create an army only with a defensive responsibility, our task would not be complete. Like I said earlier, we want to defend Mozambique's territorial integrity and that is accomplished in different ways. We can defend ourselves from any aggression by a neighboring country or any power.

That could be a defensive action, but within this context we can have offensive actions. So, I can say that the army we are preparing right now ought to be practically and technically offensive and defensive.

[Jossias] General, you once said any of Mozambique's neighbors posed a threat. Do you still believe that and if so why?

[Ngonhamo] I see things from different angles. My reading is very simple. When I speak of a threat from neighboring countries, I speak as a Mozambican who is inside his country. I see Mozambique as an independent and sovereign country—a country with economic potential—and not as a country that is the property of a party, such as the one in power today.

I have referred to threats—and I will continue to reiterate that we ought to be ready—because today's friend could be tomorrow's enemy. If today there are countries with ties of friendship to Mozambique, it is because they are friends with the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party, which is in power. Our country is under a democratic regime and tomorrow any other party could win the elections, but it may not have ties of friendship with those countries. That can create problems. Let us look at the situation in some countries right now.

Today, the South African problem is a threat to Mozambique. One does not yet know what the situation will be there. Mandela, De Klerk, or any other party could win. One does not know what the future has in store for South Africa. Here in Maputo I am seeing the answer to my assertion that those countries pose a threat to Mozambique. South African refugees have begun to arrive in Mozambique, fearing the war there, and there are people already leaving South Africa for Portugal and other countries. That creates a very difficult situation for us. It is not only a military threat, but an economic one as well. If Mozambique is to have refugees again, and the same situation that we had with the ANC in the past, the same situation that we had with the Zimbabweans fighting against the colonial system in Rhodesia, it will be a threat to us and our stability. We, the FADM, will be ready to help, whatever the need.

We could speak of a country as small as Swaziland, where the situation is also not very clear. Their lives evolve around a monarchy, but one day a madman may surface and wish to change the situation, as in Lesotho, and he could expel the king and establish a system that might not conform with ours and with our lives in Mozambique.

We could even speak of Botswana, where the situation is very calm. But that should not please every Mozambican, because one day some sort of crisis might flare up.

When one sets fire to cotton with a match, the fire and smoke will not be noticeable immediately. Cotton first burns from the inside, and the flames only begin afterward. There are many internal problems in Botswana about which I cannot comment. There are refugees from different countries there. It is a threat that can surface at any moment.

Zimbabwe is even a more serious and open threat. Zimbabwe's economic dependence on Mozambique might not please some Zimbabweans. It is not a good situation for us. If Mugabe today accepts that economic subordination and dependence, it is because he has access to the sea. One day, any other party might come to power in Zimbabwe and say that that dependence should stop, and that it should control the access to the sea by trying to integrate Mozambican territory into Zimbabwe.

Zambia also has its problems. Today it is a democratic country. President Chiluba was democratically elected,

but there are corruption problems there, and the government has been accused of not resolving the economic problems and of not creating stability. As Zambia's neighbors, we ought to be worried. As soldiers we are always on standby, and we ought to be ready to defend ourselves against any dangerous situation and instability.

With Tanzania we have historic problems, we have blood ties. As you know, Mozambicans waged the independence war from Tanzania. There are Mozambicans in that country. There are people of mixed blood. Mozambicans have left children in Tanzania, and today some are here and others are there. There has always been a rapprochement. That is still the case today. For instance, there are many Mozambicans who are entering Nampula, Zambezia, and Niassa alleging that they are looking for their parents because they were born in Tanzania during the war. Because life is difficult, they need their parents.

It is problems like these that affect Mozambique. To date politicians do not believe that the situation exists.

These are the aspects upon which I based myself when I said that all of Mozambique's neighboring countries pose a threat to us. There are other issues which I cannot disclose because of their far-reaching and secret nature, and which we can only deal with within the general staff of the FADM. I have just referred to the tip of the iceberg.

[Jossias] Turning to the formation of the FADM. In your opinion, who is responsible for the present delays?

[Ngonhamo] Well, that is a delicate situation. I have been involved with the formation of the new army since the very beginning and I feel that in fact there are delays in a number of sectors. All sectors that affect the formation of the FADM are linked to logistics. There are financial problems. I do not know whether there is any authorized person in the Ministry of Finance or in the FADM logistics. It is in those sectors where we can find those responsible for the delays in the formation of the army.

It is the Mozambican state that is responsible for the finances and logistics of the FADM. With the support of other countries, the responsibility of restoring training centers rests on the shoulders of the state and the government. The latest example about this slowness was the ship that was supposed to carry the uniforms. It was a joke that so far has not been explained.

We expected the ship on 15 March, but it only arrived on 12 April. It sailed from Portugal to South Africa where containers were transferred to another ship. On its way to Maputo the ship was rerouted to Beira. These are very difficult and complicated situations that we cannot understand.

We in the CCFADMM [Joint Commission for the Formation of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces]

suggested that the government should use cargo aircraft to ferry at least part of the consignment for the first battalions still to be trained, while the remainder of the uniforms could be sent by ship to shorten the delay. In fact, those problems are the responsibility of the government and the government should shoulder them.

[Jossias] We know that during the training at Nyanga the British instructors refused to let the national flag be raised. Now the same situation has arisen at training centers in Mozambique. What is the FADM Supreme Command's position about this matter?

[Ngonhamo] Maybe people have not been properly informed. In fact I would like to clarify what has happened or is happening. We are the FADM and the Mozambican army. We recognize the flag of the Republic of Mozambique. What happens is that there are two flags in the country: the flag of the ruling Frelimo Party and the state flag. We recognize the state flag that will be raised at all barracks and at every FADM center, and even at our command post, the Garden, the flag of the Republic of Mozambique will be raised, except for the party flag because then it would be necessary to get hold of the flags of the country's parties and raise them at barracks and training centers. Actually, we have been issuing military cards carrying the Republic of Mozambique seal.

[Jossias] But was there such a problem at Nyanga or not?

[Ngonhamo] Well, that issue was not carefully studied and clarified. The British and the Zimbabweans did not refuse to have the flag. They were awaiting orders from Mozambique to know whether they could raise the flag. There was no time in view of the speed with which the program was implemented. The course ended before we could address the situation. If for instance a program involving the FADM is to be carried out in any neighboring country, the Republic of Mozambique flag will be raised without any problem.

[Jossias] The FADM salary plan has just been approved. General, are you happy with the plan?

[Ngonhamo] I am happy and agree with the salary scale. I took part in the discussions with the Frelimo government over that issue. Moreover, the finance minister informed the sides that 80 contos for a trooper was what the Mozambique Government can afford right now. The government's capacity can only go that far. I do not think there is any other alternative. I think that the matter might not be closed because the new government emerging from the elections will, at our request, analyze the situation to see whether the soldiers' salaries can be increased because their pay does not correspond to the current cost of living. The metical has been devaluing all the time. The FADM soldiers will accept those salaries, and we as commanders will explain to them the reasons for their pay, as well as the capacity of the Mozambique Government.

[Jossias] We are now going to ask you a personal question. How do you differentiate Renamo's General Ngonhamo and FADM's General Ngonhamo?

[Ngonhamo] Yes, there is indeed a difference. First, when I was a Renamo general, I had my instructions and my beliefs were different from those I now have as an FADM officer. Even the uniforms and stripes were different. My views are apolitical at this stage, and I am wearing an FADM uniform. The work I do is no longer for the benefit of the party but, rather, for the benefit of the people. I have nothing to do with any party. Let them have their political clashes, let them have their differences. My task at this juncture is to protect the country's borders and guarantee security. I am a different man. I have changed.

[Jossias] You have often come out publicly making political statements that reflect Renamo's views. To what extent to do such statements help the cause of national reconciliation?

[Ngonhamo] I can refute such allegations, which I regard as unfounded and arising from the poor understanding shown by some people, notably journalists with certain government newspapers. I could ask any journalist to point out which sentences in my statements he or she perceives to be of a political nature. What is at stake here is not the political statements but, rather, the underlying reasons for such statements. I am a military officer, not a politician. I do not like to shove problems under the carpet. I like to indicate clearly what the problems are. The problem is that those people who are affected by my statements then think they are political statements. Let me cast a look back at the speech I made at the close of the first training course. That speech caused controversy and even SAVANA came out saying that it had been a political statement. That is not true, though.

I said that we had very difficult work on our hands and that we were facing financial problems which the government was very slow to address. I also noted that that problem could affect training, that our forces might not be operational prior to the holding of elections, and that the government appears to develop an allergy when money matters come up. This is something that I would like to reiterate even now, because it is the truth.

I am very happy with the cooperation of Frelimo officers helping us train the army. They are good and they cooperate in everything as long as money is not involved. When money matters come up, something gives and they do not cooperate. They want to use the country's money as though it were a favor or a gift and that is no way to go about it. We have experienced that problem even within the supreme command. I have discussed this matter with Lieutenant General Lagos Lidimo and we are having problems. The statements made by the Joint Commission for the Formation of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, CCFADM, at our meetings do not correspond with the reality on the ground. Despite the fact that our office at the Garden has nothing inside,

the government team to the CCFADM has already publicly stated that conditions are in place for people to work. That is a lie. That place has no conditions and people cannot work there. That is a money-related problem.

We, for instance, are senior commanding officers but we have no homes. We have no cars, but they say that cars have already been ordered. I have already had talks with the government team and told them that there is no need to wait for vehicles to be ordered from France or wherever else. You can buy vehicles here in Maputo or in South Africa. So that our work can get off the ground, let us start working with these vehicles and then we can also use the other vehicles that are supposed to be coming from France.

For example, I have said in this interview today that the government must carry the blame for delays in the training of the new army. Many people will see that statement as a political one. Yet, it is not. When I said that all the present government can pay soldiers is 80 contos per month and that we will take up this matter with the new government that emerges from elections, many people will have interpreted it as a political statement. Yet, I was saying the truth. That is the situation. This government says it cannot give more and we are going to work with the next government in a bid to secure better conditions for our soldiers. This is the reality, pure and simple.

[Jossias] Will you remain head of the Renamo team to the CCFADM or is that position incompatible with your new duties?

[Ngonhamo] For working reasons, that matter is being looked at within Renamo. Because there is a lot of work to be done, the joint commission needs to make many trips to various parts of the country. The new army led by us also has an office and a general staff. We are always having to respond to reports and messages about the deployment of troops. Now, we are going to have the first battalion of special forces and it winds up its training within the next two weeks. That involves a lot of work and it requires separation so that a new work routine can be created in this new area. It is an issue that is being analyzed. Further, more, it does not look very good if the same person is a colored on one hand and a black on the other. [sentence as printed] A person should have one race only.

[Jossias] You do agree, though, that this is one issue that must definitely be clarified?

[Ngonhamo] Of course I agree, and it will be clarified as soon as possible.

[Jossias] Gen. Ngonhamo: you are working with two generals who used to be your enemies. I would like to know how you relate to them and with whom you feel more at ease.

[Ngonhamo] I feel at ease with both. I also feel at ease with all those generals who are not involved in these commissions or in carrying out these tasks. When I work with them, I am working with Mozambicans. Obviously, some present wrong ideas, but that is not a serious problem because I have managed to analyze things calmly. One can communicate with me, and there is really no problem. What is more, there is no reason for separation from the Frelimo generals because, to my mind, we were separated during the war and now we are together. If we are on an equal footing with them today, it is because work has been done to achieve it.

[Jossias] In an interview he granted this newspaper recently, General Mabote said that the war waged by Renamo was not a guerrilla war but, rather, pure terrorism. Given that you were one of Renamo's principal strategists, how do you view the war waged by your movement?

[Ngonhamo] I did read the interview granted by Gen. Sebastiao Mabote. First, Mr. Mabote said that in this country there had been only one guerrilla war for independence and that what had followed had been terrorism. He thereby clearly suggested that Renamo had been responsible for the terrorism. Second, he implied that there is no general more intelligent than he within Frelimo, his party.

I do not believe that he was too aware of what he was saying, or perhaps he said it for some particular reason. What he said was not true because ours was not a terrorist war. Had it been so, it would not have received so much support from the people. A terrorist cannot administer a territory. A terrorist cannot change the situation within a country, or the traditional symbols of government.

I do confirm that vehicles were burned and that people were killed during the war. Responsibility for those deaths must not be laid at Renamo's door. Obviously, we have to admit that Renamo bullets did claim innocent lives during the war. Gen. Mabote said that Renamo killed civilians. He also said he had been trained in Soviet academies and suggested he was very intelligent. I can only regret that the Soviets should have trained him poorly.

First, one thing I know as a soldier is that barbed wire should be used to fence in any military barracks. Those were not the instructions given by Gen. Mabote concerning Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique, FPLM, barracks. There, he used people as human shields around the barracks and those people were caught in the fire and killed when there were attacks. It was not Renamo that put people around its barracks. Those were orders issued by Frelimo and by Gen. Mabote, who was the FPLM's chief of the General Staff.

As for Mr. Mabote's comments about burned vehicles, I would like the Mozambican people to answer that charge. Frelimo forcibly took vehicles from their owners to put them in convoys to carry Frelimo war materiel

and soldiers so they could launch military offensives against Renamo. Obviously, vehicles that were part of convoys were ambushed and burned. There are Mozambicans who are still claiming compensation for those losses. It was not Renamo that commandeered those vehicles for its military convoys.

Third, Frelimo soldiers forced civilians to join their military convoys. They used to say that it was for security purposes, so they could travel between Beira and Machipanda, from Maputo to Beira, or from Maputo to Namaacha, Ressano Garcia, and Ponta do Ouro. Those vehicles were ambushed and after a few shots the soldiers would flee and the civilians were left to die. It was not Renamo that did that. Civilians who misbehaved and went about on their own were punished and detained. Those actions were the fruit of Gen. Mabote's intelligence, who was the FPLM's chief of the General Staff. I do think that he had some special motive for saying those things.

[Jossias] As commander of the new army, do you think that Gen. Mabote would be fit to serve in the new army now being formed?

[Ngonhamo] All people are welcome and can serve in the FADM forces. Whether or not they have experience or ability, we are going to train them. There will be no problem about that.

[Jossias] He also said that the young generals should refrain from making political statements. Do you agree with him?

[Ngonhamo] I agree with him, but unfortunately he contradicts himself in that interview. First, when he compares guerrilla warfare and terrorism, his idea promptly loses validity. He has gone so far as to say that generals who make political statements are illiterate. In saying so, he is making a political, rather than a military, statement. If, however, he was serious when he said that, then we are in agreement, because our view is that soldiers should not make political statements because they are not politicians.

Obviously, there are statements which, by virtue of our work, end up as political statements, even though that is not our intention. We must defend our work, our interests with the politicians. We are handicapped and we need the collaboration of politicians to be able to walk. We must report the problems and difficulties we come up against when we deal with politicians, but when we do so they think we are fighting them.

We can suppose that the Frelimo government will lose the upcoming elections and a new government will be elected. I can guarantee you that the new government will come in for the same treatment from us. That is how it has to be. We are going to apply pressure on the government to always seek to improve the conditions of the military. This is why I have said we will be touching again on this matter of salaries with the new government. If Frelimo wins, then we will have new meetings to try to

negotiate the salaries of military personnel. That is not a matter of making politics but, rather, of working with politicians.

[Jossias] Gen. Ngonhamo: do you think it will be possible to create a regional army in which the FADM forces will take part?

[Ngonhamo] The situation in southern Africa does not suggest that any conditions are in place for the existence of a force of that kind. My belief is that such a force will be possible at a later stage, when there is greater stability and a more thoughtful approach to things. I cannot limit the development of such things. At this juncture, such a proposition is difficult because the situation in our region is not particularly good and all countries are full of problems. What is more, those are political problems that affect even the soldiers. However, such a plan will be possible if democracies are allowed to grow more solid and if there is lasting peace. At this point, there is mistrust even among countries, which makes the implementation of such a plan very difficult.

[Jossias] Kindly tell us whether work is under way to reintegrate Renamo's generals into the new army.

[Ngonhamo] Yes, that work is under way. There are positions in the new army, and we are going to share those positions. There are areas where half of the men will be former government army officers and the other half will be made up of former Renamo officers. They come together and that is what is called a unified army. The fact that positions are being divided must not be viewed as divisions along party lines. That was the way we found to integrate soldiers in the new army. From the infantry up to the special forces, half of the men will come from the government and the other half from Renamo.

[Jossias] Very little is known about you. Who is, in fact, Gen. Ngonhamo?

[Ngonhamo] My name is Mateus Ngonhamo. I was born on 15 August 1963, and I shall be turning 31 this year. I am still unmarried, but I dating someone and I hope to marry. I come from a family of traditional rulers, and my father is a bishop with the Zionist Church.

I was born in the area of Dombe, in Manica Province's Sussundenga District. My first schooling was at the Catholic mission in Dombe. That was where I completed my primary schooling, with the help of the nuns. Then I moved to Chimoio, where I did the first two years of secondary school, after which I joined the Agrarian Institute, where I did the second year of the agriculture course. In 1978, I left school and joined Renamo.

[Jossias] Why did you leave school?

[Ngonhamo] I made that decision because of a problem connected with my studies. My name came up on a list saying that I should conclude my course in Cuba, in the company of other colleagues, my cousins included. We

accepted that because we knew this was a matter of responding to the country's needs.

However, I could not help asking myself one question: Those names came up on one day, I was supposed to have my medical check-up the next day, and the following day we would all be leaving for Cuba. I wanted to say goodbye to my parents, who lived some 300 or 400 km from Chimoio. I could not leave without telling my parents where I was going. It was not possible. There were others who felt like me, who could not go without saying farewell to their relatives. It would not be a good thing to leave without saying anything to the family. There were eight of us who felt that way, and we did not go to Cuba on the date that had been set.

We stayed and the situation became very difficult. There were witch hunts, various problems, and there was the risk that we might be expelled from the institute. We were reactionaries and we lacked discipline. I told my father that I did not want to study any more. I wanted to leave my studies and get back home to make a decision.

I went to my village and explained everything to my father. I told him that I was leaving and that I might come around some day. I had already been in contact with Renamo men, even at that stage. I asked them to come to my house so my father could see and believe that I would be joining them. They arrived there in the morning and I introduced them to my father. We prepared breakfast for them and then we left for the jungle.

When I went there, I trained as a soldier, like the others did. After undergoing training, I received a weapon and I started working as a Renamo private. I did a course as section chief, after which I did another to become platoon commander. That was the organization we had in our guerrilla army.

On 15 September 1981, Renamo made me a one-star general and I started working in various provinces. I worked in Inhambane, Manica, Sofala, Tete, Zambezia, and Nampula. After completing another course in 1986, I was promoted to two-star general.

I worked on various fronts. I went to Niassa and Nampula, and I became a lieutenant general in 1990. Then I came to the Southern Front and worked here as Southern Front commander and coordinator. I was commander for Maputo, Inhambane, and Gaza Provinces.

When the General Peace Accord was about to be signed, I returned to Maringue and stayed there until I was appointed head of the Renamo team to the CCFADM.

[Jossias] What is your area of expertise, after failing in your agricultural studies?

[Ngonhamo] I have specialized in infantry, light and heavy artillery, and military intelligence.

[Jossias] Is military intelligence counterintelligence?

[Ngonhamo] No. Military intelligence is not counterintelligence. I have also specialized as a military cadres instructor. Those were various duties I had to fulfill during the war.

[Jossias] Did you go about on foot in the provinces you have mentioned?

[Ngonhamo] That is right. We did not have vehicles. I remember quite well that in 1982 I went on foot from Mabote (in Inhambane Province) to Gorongosa. It was a long march that took us 94 days. I have also traveled on foot both ways between Gorongosa and Zambezia, and Nampula and Niassa.

When I left Gorongosa now, I went to Chibuto on foot. It was always like that. We had no transportation.

[Jossias] Gen. Ngonhamo, did you never undergo military training outside the country?

[Ngonhamo] Well, I have been abroad on several occasions to do some courses, but most of my training was done inside the country. I have been to South Africa. In 1984, I was with the Renamo team that tried to negotiate an accord with Frelimo.

[Jossias] Why did that accord fail?

[Ngonhamo] It failed because Frelimo's knowledge about Renamo was very scant. Samora Machel did not know Renamo well and was always given wrong information. That is yet another thing I would like to say about Gen. Mabote. He misled President Samora Machel a great deal. He always gave him the wrong information, even about the military situation, and he knew little about Renamo.

Samora always believed that Renamo would end with the signing of the Nkomati Accord. He thought that Renamo survived thanks to South African support. That was far from correct: Renamo did not die out with the Nkomati Accord. In fact, it increased its operations. Samora was also misled when he was told that it was no solution to negotiate with Renamo because Renamo lacked intelligence and that it had neither politicians nor military figures. That was what prompted Samora to outline the program of the talks to get Renamo to integrate into Frelimo, to offer an amnesty to Renamo. That was no good.

Jacinto Veloso headed the Frelimo team to the talks. That team included [Member of Parliament] Sergio Vieira; [Labor Minister] Hunguana; [former adviser to Samora Machel] Fernando Honwana; Hama Thai, who is now the Mozambique Armed Forces chief of General Staff, but who was in the Air Force at the time; and others.

Their only message was amnesty. They had no alternative in their baggage. So we told them: "We are the ones who should be granting you amnesty, not the other way around." So, the talks flopped and we continued with the war.

When we went to Rome, Frelimo already an idea about what the talks should focus on. There was negotiation in Rome. There were ploys, but they no longer viewed the matter as they had done in 1984.

[Jossias] One could say that you became a general when you were still very young.

[Ngonhamo] Yes, but I think that was due to my military skills. Perhaps I was a good soldier.

Government, Renamo Demobilize 14,000 Soldiers

MB2504202494 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] At least 14,000 government and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] soldiers were demobilized throughout the country by 24 April. Over the last three days the two sides have (only) sent 51 men to join the new Mozambican Army, thereby increasing to 4,000 the number of troops available for the formation of the future Mozambique Defense Armed Forces. Meanwhile, the UN Operations in Mozambique has reported that some 50,000 government and Renamo soldiers have already been confined to their assembly areas.

Zambia

120 ANC Members Arrive for Military Training

MB2504164394 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] One-hundred-and-twenty members of the ANC have arrived in Zambia to undergo military training. An ANC spokesman said the training aimed at preparing the members for integration into a national defense force after the elections. The cost of the training will be carried by the Zambian Government.

Zimbabwe

APLA, MK Members Graduate From Army Staff College

MB2204204994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1949 GMT 22 Apr 94

[Text] Harare April 22 SAPA—Forty-five members of the Azania People's Liberation Army [APLA] and Umkonto we Sizwe [MK, Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] on Friday [22 April] graduated at the Zimbabwe Army Staff College in Harare, after a four-month course in conventional warfare. Zimbabwe Defence Minister Moven Mahachi said the men were now ready for integration into South Africa's new national army, ZIANA news agency reported.

Mr Mahachi told the men to prepare to work alongside their former foes. "You are obviously aware that you will be integrated into a new defence force where you will work with people who were your enemies for a long time.

"It will not be an easy transition but one that will demand your determination, patience and goodwill in a spirit of reconciliation," the minister said in a speech read for him by Deputy Defence Secretary Alexio Guruwo. This, he said, was the only way to ensure that democracy in South Africa would succeed and be sustained.

"We in Zimbabwe went through a transition period quite similar to what you will experience in South Africa in the next few months. We are more than willing to share our experiences with you to the best of our ability as we have demonstrated by accepting to train in our military institutions cadres from MK and APLA."

Minister: No Commission Ordered on Land Scandal

*MB2204095594 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0850 GMT 22 Apr 94*

[Text] Harare April 22 SAPA—Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has not, contrary to reports, ordered a commission of inquiry into a land-grab scandal involving senior party and government officials, a daily newspaper in Harare reported on Friday [22 April]. He had made his own enquiries and that was the end of the matter, it said.

The DAILY GAZETTE was quoting Minister of Home Affairs Dumiso Dabengwa on an earlier remark to a human rights convention nearly two weeks ago that Mr Mugabe had ordered an inquiry into disclosures that state-owned farms, many of them intended for resettling thousands of peasant farmers, had been distributed

among officials including two cabinet ministers, top officers of the army, air force, police and intelligence service, and senior civil servants.

"The word inquiry does not automatically translate into a commission," the GAZETTE quoted Mr Dabengwa on Friday. "The president went on to enquire about the scheme himself and got the reply he wanted, resulting in the action he has taken."

Last week Mr Mugabe announced he had cancelled all leases to the estimated 180 state-owned farms, and denied there was a scandal. Only a few political figures had benefited, he said.

The independent press here has named 15, and there are known to be at least five more.

Observers say Mr Dabengwa's remarks are likely to deepen dismay over the way in which the government is handling the scandal, and that it is clear Mr Mugabe does not intend to give it the same concern he did to the 1989 controversy when ruling party politicians profited in a used-car racket. Then he appointed a commission of inquiry headed by a judge that resulted in five cabinet ministers resigning in disgrace for cheating and lying, one of them taking his own life.

Land is regarded as the most explosive issue in Zimbabwean politics, and probably the basis of Mr Mugabe's political platform because he regularly promises to correct the inequities of the colonial past. At independence the ruling ZANU (PF) [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] party promised 165,000 families would be settled in five years. Fourteen years later, about 100,000 have been settled and vast tracts of land bought by government are lying idle.

Liberia

Taylor on NPFL Demobilization, New Minister

AB2504174294 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1200 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] The National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] says it has demobilized and submitted more arms to the expanded ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] under UN supervision, more than ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] combined.

The NPFL commander in chief, Charles Gankay Taylor, says the NPFL is the only faction under the Cotonou Peace Accord that has submitted artillery pieces in furtherance of the disarmament process. He said there are our detractors who continue to make [word indistinct] action of the NPFL, saying even when we do good, some say we didn't do good. Mr. Taylor said there is no need for Liberians to continue killing each other and cautioned those who desire the leadership of this country not to pursue the electoral process. The NPFL leader said politicians are delaying the peace process because they are afraid to go to elections.

At the same time, the NPFL has demonstrated confidence in the ability of Liberian women to play a key role in the reconstruction and development of Liberia. The leadership of the NPFL in expressing support for greater involvement in government and other key sectors in society for Liberian women, said the NPFL, through its political wing, will continue to ensure that Liberian women who have the potential are sent to high offices in the new Liberia.

The assurance was given over the weekend by NPFL leader, Charles Gankay Taylor, when he appointed Mrs. Dorothy Musuleng-Cooper as the first woman minister to the post of foreign affairs to the transitional government. The appointment of Mrs. Cooper was greeted with an applause of acclamation coinciding with formal pronouncement of the decision by the NPFL to take its seat on the transitional government.

Interior, Defense Ministers Urge Reconciliation

AB2304174194 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 23 Apr 94

[Text] The newly inducted internal affairs minister, the Honorable Samuel Dhokie, has said the Liberian people are tired of war and will join forces to subdue any group or individual intending to wage war on the nation through any attempt to take power by force. Minister Dhokie said Liberians should all be prepared to (?find solutions at the) conference table, noting that the gun can only continue to bring untold suffering to our people instead of helping to heal the wounds inflicted as result of the four-year civil war.

Speaking yesterday when he officially took over at the Internal Affairs Ministry, Mr. Dhokie appealed to all warring factions, including the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, NPFL, to effectively implement the disarmament

aspect of the Cotonou Accord so as to give participatory democracy a chance in Liberia. Minister Dhokie emphasized that what has happened to Liberia has equally happened to most of the great and developed nations of the world and said what Liberians need now is a demonstration of the virtue of reconciliation, love for one another, and forgiveness in order to rebuild the country.

Minister Dhokie said that his ministry is one of the bedrocks upon which the achievement of lasting peace, reconciliation, and reunification rests and assured that he would work tirelessly to bring the people together under the Liberia National Transitional Government [LNTG]. He reminded the Internal Affairs Ministry family of the important role the ministry must play at this crucial time and urged them to remain dedicated, committed, and responsible for the mandate of the LNTG.

Minister Dhokie then apologized to the traditional leaders in the country, especially those who left their various counties and got stranded in Monrovia for the suffering the war has caused them and appealed to them to fully contribute to the success of the LNTG.

The newly commissioned defense minister, retired Major General Sande Ware, has called on officials of the Defense Ministry to work in unison for the enhancement of policies and programs of the LNTG. He said that it is only through a united front that people of one goal can withstand the test of time in the service of their community and nation. Minister Ware, who retained his position as defense minister, maintained that the hallmark of his administration will be division of land, labor, and hard work at the Defense Ministry. [sentence as heard] The LNTG defense minister made the remark yesterday during his first meeting with officials of the Defense Ministry and members of the general and special staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia.

On the crisis in ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], Minister Ware asked the Defense Ministry family to assist in bringing the parties together for the peaceful resolution of the conflict. He described the ULIMO crisis as the most dangerous conflict in the country and appealed to peace-loving Liberians and friends of Liberia to get involved to quickly bring the ULIMO internal crisis (?to a speedy end).

Two NPFL Ministers Appear for Confirmation Hearings

AB2504183594 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1400 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] The NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] nominated ministers of information, Joe Mulbah, and agriculture, Roland Massaquoi, today appeared before the Transitional Legislative Assembly [TLA] at the Capitol building in Monrovia for confirmation hearings. Both ministers, Mulbah and Dr. Massaquoi, now join four other NPFL ministers who were formerly inducted into office last week. The appearance of the two ministers is in line with the position of the leadership of the NPFL to have all its

nominated officials formerly seated on the LNTG [Liberia National Transitional Government].

ULIMO Leader Disputes Selection of Cabinet Members

*AB2204201194 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 22 Apr 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Alhaji Koromah is not only unhappy with the fighting going on around the Po River bridge, he has also thrown a spanner in the works of the transitional government, after euphoria greeted Wednesday's [20 April] announcement that a cabinet had been agreed. First, Charles Taylor quibbled, but then backtracked. Now, Alhaji Koromah says he does not go along with the selection of ministers. Robin White asked Alhaji Koromah what his problem was:

[Begin recording] [Koromah] According to the Cotonou Agreement, it is the three signatories to the Cotonou Agreement—NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], and the erstwhile IGNU [Interim Government of National Unity] who are to decide on the allocation of ministries. And the last time in Cotonou, the ministries were divided. ULIMO got Defense Ministry and Finance Ministry. Now, we hear on the air that Defense Ministry has been given to the interim government. This is not only unacceptable, it is also totally illegal. So, as far as ULIMO is concerned, that particular act is null and void and it will never be accepted. Defense Ministry goes to ULIMO.

[White] So, what are you going to do about it?

[Koromah] We have several options. We are just making it clear. Council of State has not any power to distribute any ministries. So, if it is going to live by its creator, which is the Cotonou Accord, it will not do anything that is illegal. So, we have a number of actions that are both drastic and non-drastic. So, we want to start off by bringing it to their attention that that action there is no action and it will not be accepted.

[White] Couldn't somebody have agreed to this on your behalf?

[Koromah] No, I communicated last night and this morning with everybody: the acting chairman, General Isaac Quawah; the members of the executive council, I talked by radio to top members, the field commander, General (Dumbuyah); and the battalion commander talked to me, (Jango Jaba); and nobody seems to be aware of this.

[White] Now, there seems to be trouble again within your organization with forces supporting Roosevelt Johnson fighting around the Po River bridge again. Now, you met Roosevelt Johnson in Sierra Leone and it had been reported that you had sorted out your problems, so what is going on?

[Koromah] Well, I don't think it is Roosevelt Johnson's forces because Johnson kissed the Bible in front of Captain

Strasser and his deputy chairman, Bio, and took an oath and he signed a document so the group of people who attack our positions around the Po River are just rebels and we will treat them as rebels. As a matter of fact, according to my Zebra Battalion commander, (Jango Jaba), that particular group attacked our positions and positions of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]. As you know, ECOMOG is deployed in our territory and they killed at least two ECOMOG soldiers. Our forces killed about 47 of their men, and about 50 of those rebels were arrested by ECOMOG. They are presently being interrogated at ECOMOG base and the rest of them ran off.

[White] Where is Roosevelt Johnson now?

[Koromah] Roosevelt Johnson is... [pauses] he should be in Monrovia, and the last time I was in Monrovia, I had invited him and we had set up a committee that was discussing across the line and trying to get our pieces together and sort things out. So, it was completely shocking for me to have heard that another group of attackers had come, but I don't want to believe it is Johnson because I don't believe he is a pagan to go and kiss the Bible and get involved in rebel activity...

[White, interrupting] It sounds to me that you need to go back to Liberia yourself and sort out these problems.

[Koromah] Yes, I am on my way. For security reasons I am not going to tell you the date.

[White] Why? Who might kill you?

[Koromah] It is not a question of who might want to kill me. I mean all kinds of people want to kill me. [end recording]

Factional Fighting Within ULIMO Continues

*AB2204174194 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 22 Apr 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Efforts have been going on to put finishing touches to Liberia's Transitional Government. One of the participants, ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], has again been split by factional fighting. Krahn supporters of Roosevelt Johnson have been battling with Alhaji Koromah's Madingo forces at the Po River bridge just northwest of Monrovia. It follows last month's assault on ULIMO headquarters at Tubmanburg by Johnson's forces. From Monrovia, Nii Nartey Allison telexed this report:

Factional fighting continued this morning with skirmishes at (Krombatkam), a village 300 yards from the Po River bridge, sparking off a wave of panic-stricken residents behind ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group] checkpoint south of the bridge. One of the fleeing residents, Joshua Schneider,

who appeared terrified, said that the villagers took to their heels as the sound of gunfire neared the center of their village.

Troops of the peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, deployed south of the Po River bridge, have sealed off the area to normal traffic. ECOMOG troops on the Po River highway today told journalists that one of their sergeants had been killed in crossfire in yesterday's gunbattle at the bridge. Commanders of the Koromah faction still in control of the Po River bridge said seven Krahn soldiers were killed in yesterday's fighting around the Po River alone. ECOMOG troops near the bridge confirmed that 35 Krahns were rescued and taken to the headquarters of the peacekeeping force. A commander of Alhaji Koromah's Madingo faction said there are still pockets of the Krahns in the forest and we will institute a systematic mopping-up exercise to rid the area of any threat.

NPFL Officials Prevented from Entering Monrovia

AB2504175694 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1400 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] soldiers prevented a team of NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] Legislative Assembly members in Kakata from entering Monrovia. Reports say ECOMOG is insisting that the officials had to be cleared at headquarters for official pass, a move condemned by the NPFL's TLA [Transitional Legislative Assembly] members. The NPFL Assembly members condemned ECOMOG for [words indistinct] in the way of free travel between Monrovia and Gbarnga, saying there is no need for a pass system in a reunified Liberia.

ECOMOG Troops 'Ambushed' in Tubmanburg

AB2504184494 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1400 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] An ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] force carrying reinforcements to quell the factional fighting in ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] has been ambushed in Tubmanburg, Bomi County. The force, which was carrying troops to the troubled headquarters of ULIMO to stop the fighting between Alhaji Koromah's Madingo and rival Roosevelt Johnson's Krahn supporters, was reportedly hit by rockets on its way to Tubmanburg. ECOMOG has also suffered casualty in the Tubmanburg incident.

ECOMOG: Po River Bridge Not Under ULIMO Control

AB2604110994 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 26 Apr 94

[Text] The attention of the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] High Command has been drawn to a front-page publication of the 25 April edition of the INQUIRER newspaper,

reporting that ULIMO fighters loyal to General Roosevelt Johnson have taken over the Po River Bridge.

ECOMOG says the publication was not only false but also misleading and is capable of causing panic and giving the general public a wrong impression of the [word indistinct] situation at Po River Bridge.

According to the release, ECOMOG has been in control of the Po River Bridge and is still in proper control of it. It is obvious therefore that the INQUIRER reporter was not physically present at the bridge to ascertain the full position of things there.

Also on the observation of the ECOMOG High Command was a BBC Focus on Africa news item aired recently, which alleged that an ECOMOG tank was hit by a ULIMO RPG. The release also noted that none of ECOMOG vehicles was hit by a shot from an RPG and is therefore reiterating the need for constant consultation from ECOMOG High Command on matters affecting its operations, especially at this stage of the Liberian peace process.

All-Citizens Conference Issues Resolution, Ends

AB2504173294 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1200 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] A two-day all-citizens conference has ended in Gbarnga with the issuance of a resolution giving a one-week grace period to the State Council for the full sitting of the Liberian National Transitional Government [LNTG] to ably observe the disarmament process. In the eight-count resolution, the citizens called for the setting up of a committee which would constantly remind ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] and ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] to accelerate the peace process.

According to the resolution, the all-citizens conference fully endorsed all NPFL nominees to the LNTG and urged the appointees to adhere to the code of conduct agreed upon by the NPFL. The resolution also called on the NPFL to contact leaders of all armed groups to the Liberian conflict through NPFL representatives to the Constitutional Assembly to open dialogue for the total and the unconditional resolution of the Liberian civil conflict. The conference also spelled that the general and presidential election, scheduled for December this year, be held in accordance with the (?April 7 accord) in Monrovia.

Receiving the resolution, the leader of the NPFL, Mr. Charles Gankay Taylor, said he would carry out the wishes of the Liberian people as he is their servant. He said the road to peace has been rough and rocky and the Liberian people have contributed immensely to the peace process. Mr. Taylor said the Liberian people can boast that they preserved the sovereignty of this nation.

The NPFL leader, Mr. Charles Gankay Taylor, speaking during the citizens meeting in Gbarnga over the weekend, said the NPFL is satisfied over the resolve of intense

negotiations thus far in furtherance of the peace process and therefore formally becomes part of the LNTG today, Monday. Mr. Taylor expressed great thanks and appreciation to the Almighty God for his mercy and handiwork which have continued to sustain this nation, despite all odds during the course of the five-year old civil conflict.

Togo

Kodjo Views Current Political, Economic Issues

LD2504160394 Paris Radio France International in French 0548 GMT 25 Apr 94

[Text] Our guest this morning is Edem Kodjo, the new Togolese prime minister, appointed last Friday by President Eyadema. The appointment of Edem Kodjo, chairman of the Togolese Union for Democracy [UTD] is being disputed by the Action Committee for Renewal [CAR], which is the other party of the majority. The CAR recalls that according to an agreement made last month with the UTD, the prime minister should come from the CAR. For his part, Edem Kodjo wants to calm things down. Here is his reaction, speaking to Guy Mariot, our correspondent in Togo. Listen hard: The line quality is not of the best. It will be difficult to hear all of what he says.

[Begin recording] [Kodjo] We must try not to poison the atmosphere, because the reaction of the CAR is a reaction that must be integrated within the framework of the problems that we are facing and will face. The most important thing is that the bridges should not be broken between the two political parties which make up the parliamentary majority. And these bridges have not broken. As Mr. Agboyibo has himself suggested, and I think it is not a bad idea, we should seek fresh consultations in such a way as to make progress on the problems we face.

[Mariot] But does the UDT-CAR coalition still exist, Mr. Prime Minister?

[Kodjo] Of course it does. And it is this coalition which is the fruit of the victory of the Togolese people during the recent parliamentary elections. We cannot get away from this coalition. I believe we must do our utmost to ensure its continued existence.

[Mariot] So when will the government be announced, and how will it be made up? Will it be technocrats, and from which parties?

[Kodjo] In principle the government should be made up of representatives of political parties in the assembly, personalities from the political world, and civilian personalities, who can make a contribution to solving the problems of this country, and there is no question of forming a government of technocrats.

I think [words indistinct] a certain number of choices (?about its direction) and this has to be taken into account. As such, we have to appoint a new kind of government where the main political forces of the country are represented.

[Mariot] How can you sell your government program? What are its main outlines?

[Kodjo] First of all we need national reconciliation, in other words, we have to ensure that conditions exist enabling everyone to express their opinions and to feel free in a free country. I think that to do this we need to give up our quarrels. We will do what we can. The different players in the political game should be associated in this game, and find themselves free in this country.

We must do our utmost to get the problem of refugees solved, because it is a basic aspect of reconciliation. Starting this reconciliation, (?demanded by the people), must be carried out [words indistinct] in such a way that the army, which is our army, can find understanding and a total feeling of brotherhood among the people.

After this comes the creation of a state based on law, which is something essential in democratic systems; human rights must be respected, we must have institutions to strengthen respect for human rights.

Certain solutions have also been envisaged in the constitution. We must institute it rapidly. We must quickly move toward a state based on law, and the state based on law should be decentralized so that the people can take a closer part in mapping out policies concerning their future.

We also need an economic recovery. This is the main problem. As you know, the economic situation in our country is bad, its economic recovery can only come as a result of efforts and also as a result of the confidence we must give the outside world so that we can use the necessary capital sums for the development of our industry, agriculture, and trade.

With the devaluation of the African Financial Community franc, the problems are all the more difficult. We need to buckle down to this problem to ensure the economic recovery of this country. We can do it.

Finally, we need social peace, because economic development is of itself a good thing, but we need social peace in as far as whole strata of the people, like young people, women, farmers try a new path [as heard]. Otherwise, young people [word indistinct] the future.

[Mariot] What do the people of Togo expect of you today after such a long period of difficulties?

[Kodjo] (?First let me say) what I expect of the Togolese people: That they should have confidence, that they should mobilize themselves for the work we are going to do in common.

As for what the people expect of me, it is the small contribution I can make, because in the nature of things, I have perhaps a small degree of experience in some areas, and I could put to use this experience and the relationships I have been able to form here and there to solve the problems that the Togolese people want to solve. [end recording]

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